

# CALGARY



TWENTIETH  
CENTURY  
CITIES























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## CHAPTER I

### BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION

CALGARY is one of the figures in the foreground of a picture that appeals with almost irresistible force to the imagination of the Englishman. It stands for one of the great triumphs of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; it is a city that has risen in a night, but it rests on the foundation of long centuries of experience, and has arrived at full age in the moment of its birth. There has been no need to grope blindly through the long centuries seeking for improvements in evil conditions of life; progress has not been held in check by social forces that aim either at enslaving the worker or at taking sufficient of his increase to keep him poor and subservient all the days of his life. Calgary, for all that it looms so large in the history of the western prairie to-day, was unknown thirty years ago. Freedom as full as the Pilgrim Fathers knew when the "Mayflower" found safe harbourage at last, but redeemed from the trials and troubles that beset the old-time settlers; commercial and agricultural opportunities boundless in scope and infinite in possibility, a full modern life in a bracing upland air and amid delightful natural surroundings—these are but some of the good things within Calgary's gift. The mere thought of them has the stimulus of the mountain breeze. Our ancient, grey islands set in the North Sea have nothing of equal scope to offer; their limits are fixed; the ocean takes more than it gives. But these sea-girt islands have given to the world some of the truest men, and you shall find them and the noblest of their traditions in modern Calgary.

Calgary is but one city of Alberta, which in its turn is but one of the three Prairie Provinces of Western Canada, a sister of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. But, for all that, Alberta is twice the size of the British Islands, and larger than Germany or France. More than one hundred and sixty millions of acres stretch their length in Alberta alone, and there were less than half a million people in the Province in the beginning of this year of grace, 1912. In a flash, one sees how Calgary is destined to overflow its boundaries, how countless miles of the fertile outlying territory are to pay her direct or indirect tribute, how she will become the metropolis whereunto the agriculturists of the reclaimed prairie assemble, the mart and distributing centre, and, be it noted, the industrial centre and source of supply. One sees how the achievements of the past that have given her a high place in the history of Western Canada must needs be well-nigh forgotten, or at least overwhelmed, in the accomplishment of the future.

Who shall say that romance is dead in these years, when a great Dominion looms so large in the world's eye, summoning hundreds of thousands of oppressed, but willing, workers to give up the unending and cruelly handicapped struggle demanded by Europe, and, with new conditions, to enjoy the fruits of their labours under the sun? In the big cities of Europe there are just a few open spaces, parks, and pleasure grounds reserved that there may be some breath of fresh air, some sight of green growth, some sound of bird song, if it be no more than the chirping of the ubiquitous sparrow. In such spaces, won from surrounding bricks and mortar, the town-stricken toiler may take his brief hour's repose before going back to labour in rooms whereon the sun has no heart to shine, where the light is artificial and the air impure. But Alberta offers a working playground, not to the people of one city in Great Britain, but to millions, and Calgary stands out as one of the types of cities built by free men who, while acknowledging labour to be the law of life, are determined that they will work under the most favourable conditions, that

they will have a town without a slum and free from the grinding poverty of an older world, that all who work hard shall earn the wherewithal to live in simple comfort and complete security, and that none shall tamper with the necessities of life for the benefit of the few and to the detriment of the many.

These are high resolves, but Calgary has enjoyed special facilities for giving effect to them. As a commercial centre it is finely situated at a junction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, which has brought productivity to millions of acres, and prosperity to tens of thousands of men and women. The city stands at the junction of two noble rivers. It is close to the famous Rocky Mountains, whose sun-washed foot-hills are plainly visible to the westward; it is richly watered, possesses a delightful climate, and is surrounded on every side by miles upon miles of fertile land. The soil of Southern Alberta yields produce second in quality to none in Canada. The vast prairie plateau from which Calgary rises, terminating where the Rocky Mountains begin, produces under cultivation some of the finest grain in the world. In the quantity and quality of their yield the fields round Calgary are unrivalled; the country has been fairly described as a farmer's paradise. One reads of harvests of sixty bushels to the acre, and of the development of the grain area from 50,000 acres in 1900 to something within reach of 1,900,000 in 1911.

The increased acreage in crop is given by the Provincial Department of Agriculture for 1911 as 60 per cent. greater than in 1910. Of the yields per acre, it may be said that oats, for which Central Alberta is famous, have attested returns of 125 bushels per acre. Wheat, Alberta's sample taking second place at the American Land and Irrigation Exposition, Madison Square Garden, New York, in competition with wheats grown all over the American continent, has threshed 60 bushels to the acre, weighing, per measured bushel, 65 pounds. Barley, 58 pounds per measured bushel, has yielded 50 bushels per acre, while flax, somewhat extensively grown on new land during the last two or



three years, has produced 25 bushels per acre, and sold at \$3.00 per bushel. With the advent of malting establishments, Alberta barley, to which particular attention has been directed, by reason of its superiority for malting purposes, will soon be a staple production for local manufacture.

All this concerns Calgary very closely. It surrounds her with an ever-increasing circle of practical, prosperous, and intelligent men of the kind that is making Western Canada loom large in the eyes of Europe. Growth is inevitable under these conditions, and it must needs be growth in the right direction. Strong, healthy men, women and children, with a full measure of determination and capacity; these are the material that builds up the fortunes of any city, the material that the overgrown world-capitals of the old continents greatly desire, and are unable to obtain because, as though in obedience to a natural law, these desirable elements are flocking to the young towns of the new world, there to build up the races that must hereafter come into possession of a great Imperial inheritance.

The special significance of Calgary, as seen from England, is that it is a fine type of the few cities where room and opportunity may still be found for all who bring the gifts of head and hand that should be a universal birthright. The day will presently come, of course, when the city will have made its selection, the first period of great expansion will be complete, the avenues to success now open wide to one and all will be, if not closed, at least crowded, and certain rich chances will have gone, never to return so far as Calgary is concerned. Think of the pace of progress, the acreage under cultivation that has grown nearly a thousandfold in little more than a decade, a country in which as far back as 1909 fully 20,000 acres were taken up for settlement on every day in the year, in which, in one year, one hundred towns sprang into being, and twelve hundred miles of rail came into service to keep pace with the demand. Such figures baffle the imagination, though when we consider the measure of sunshine granted to Alberta, its elevation (nowhere less than



1,400 feet above sea level, and rising at Calgary to upwards of 3,400), the absence of endemic diseases, and the overwhelming sense of freedom, the pace of progress is not to be wondered at. And when we turn on a later page to the internal administration of Calgary, it will be seen that this progress is not a matter of externals only. It is associated with a steadfast determination to do well with life and so to regulate the internal affairs of the city that it may be a model to many a larger and more pretentious one at home and abroad.

There is a curious sense of pleasure in the mind of the stay-at-home Englishman when he sees how the quality of the civilisation that may one day not merely improve but even replace his own is the best that long experience and a fine tradition can produce. He may find in this knowledge some consolation for the thought that he is kept from participating in the great labour of the pioneers, that he can do no more than admire from afar the work his brothers accomplish so well in a new land. They have an opportunity denied to the dwellers in an older world; they can eliminate the unfit, even if they do it in the most humane fashion possible by stimulating them to return to the ranks from which they have fallen out. For the shirker, the idler, and the man who was born tired, there is no place in the vast Dominion of Promise and Plenty. It is strenuous enough in Eastern Canada, but in the West he who will not work shall not eat, and he whose favourite task is to watch the toil of others will look in vain for a job, until he feels the contagion of endeavour and enter the ranks of the men who matter. The West is making history, it is growing under our eyes, and Calgary is a typical history-maker among the prairie cities. In the past five years its population, in the city itself, has more than trebled, and this reckoning takes no count of the amazing development of the prairie holdings that is making Calgary one of the great markets of the West for grain, stock, and horses. It is to-day an important link in the chain that the Canadian Pacific Railway has forged with so much skill and foresight, and with such

splendid and well-rewarded faith in the country's future. There is another attraction that Calgary shares with the other cities of the Dominion, the stately old towns of the east and the young and no less bustling ones of the west. One and all are free, they are not born to familiarity with gross social injustice and inequalities. The citizens can administer their cities on modern lines, they are not bowed down by the burden of privilege and convention; they may think as they will, and act as their sober judgment directs. It is a full and ample life under conditions to which the old European countries have striven through centuries, and striven vainly, to attain.

He who goes to such a town as Calgary becomes at once a citizen of no mean city; he is the captain of his own fate, the master of his own soul. No man or group of men can stain his conscience with servitude or force him into quarrels with which he has no concern. He is a son of the British Empire, and a proud son; but he has the discretion allowed to a man who has come of age. It is for him, in the might and power that lie before him in no distant future, to show to the countries that still groan under tyranny, the fruits of freedom, and, while upholding law and order without fear and favour, to make social or ecclesiastical bondage seem a mean and shameful thing. For no man with a temperament can live among the Highlands on which Calgary faces the sun without developing some idealism. He is brought face to face with the majesty of Nature. The peaks of the far-off mountains, the music of rushing rivers, the song of the wind as it rolls across the awakening prairie; all these sights and sounds bring man into close communion with his Maker. So one may look with confidence to the time when the newly-built city, with its far flung line of public and private buildings, its gardens lying peacefully by the side of its warehouses—as they do to this day in the old and exquisitely restful towns of Flanders—when this city will produce, in addition to food and clothing, and countless articles for daily use, poets, painters and musicians. When the first busy years have passed

and the final order has come from chaos, the prairie cities will sing their songs and paint their pictures, and a listening world will hearken and thrill at the brave utterances. They will be a message of hope and a plea for democracy, in the ears of Europe, the message of life realised to the full.

I have outlined, however briefly, the appeal of a city like Calgary to the mind of the dweller in the old Home land. This does not lie merely in the ever-growing number of streets, in the ever-growing trade returns, the splendid manifestations of commercial and industrial integrity and intelligence. To us a new and thriving city is a symbol of imperial achievement, an augury that the greatest Empire this planet has ever seen shall not sink abruptly into age and decrepitude, that even when the old brains grow tired and worn, there shall be young and vigorous ones to carry out the splendid traditions of our race, and hands strong to carry the banner of progress. It is a world triumph that the vast expanse of prairie which rolled unbroken from the foot-hills of the mountains only a few years ago should now wave along so many miles rich with grain instead of grasses, that over the territory where the Red Indian hunted the hapless buffalo, or tortured his enemies and the hardy pioneers of progress who fell into his hands, the ample homesteads of thriving farmers should now be scattered, with here and there the beginning of a settlement that may some time in the future be such a city as Calgary is to-day. Such progress is not only for the good of the British Empire, it is for the good of the world; it puts to shame the policy of those who would wage war for the sake of territorial expansion, and those who would seek to retain their subjects under unfavourable conditions rather than permit them to swell the ranks of true citizenship.

There is no city new risen on these western prairies that is not an object-lesson to humanity, and there is more material for romance in the story of peaceful progress than in all the adventures of Indians and traders that filled the boys' books read by the children of thirty years ago. As one who, approaching the scene

of his daily labours, looks round him with a half-understood interest at the surroundings in which his life is set, as though seeking to find the larger aspect underlying familiar things, so before turning to consider in detail the rise and achievements of Calgary it has seemed permissible to speculate upon what the prosperous young city stands for in world history, and to point out that the significance is no mere matter of the pride its citizens chance to take in it, or even their justification for that pride. Look beyond all local interests and ambitions, cease to regard Calgary in the concrete, in order to see it more fairly in the abstract, and it stirs the pulse with the sense of an achievement that counts in the history of civilisation.

Yet another haven for human life freed from trammels and shackles, with no gross abuses to strive against in the scant hope of successful issue; a haven without limitation of possibilities, without fear of hunger or climate-born disease. Look round the world to-day, and ask what proportion of it can either claim or even expect as much? The gifts of God to man stand revealed in all their simplicity and beauty—the wide spaces of the earth and sky, the fertile land, the bountiful harvest, freedom and security, the right to read the riddle of the universe as the heart and brain may direct, and the knowledge, “When the bands of the body are breaking and all comes in sight,” that one has left the face of the earth fairer than he found it, and is leaving behind him those who, with strength, high hope, and sustained endeavour, will strive to make it fairer still. If we read the history of the world aright, only the best men have achieved as much, and in the light of that achievement the passing pomp and circumstance of potentates fades like the unsubstantial fabric of a vision which “leaves not a wrack behind.”





VIEW OF 8TH AVENUE, LEADING BUSINESS STREET.





## CHAPTER II.

### CALGARY AS IT IS TO-DAY.

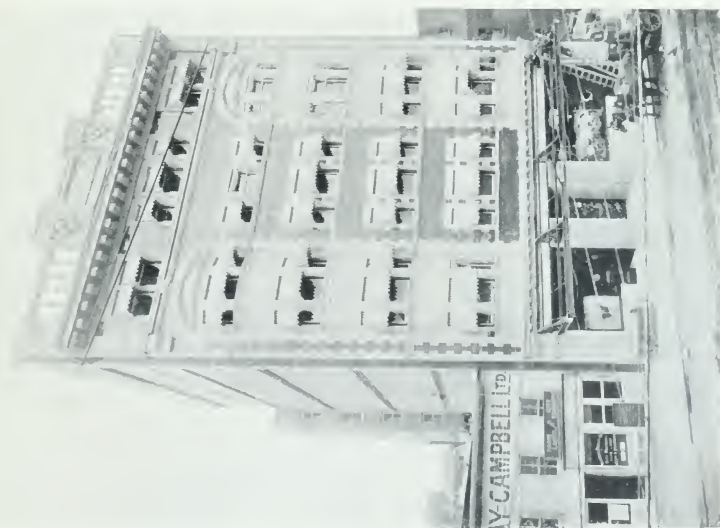
One of the picturesque things about the growth of the prairie towns in the Canadian West is the rapidity with which each town adopts methods of attracting public notice, in order to stand before the eyes of the outside world. The town council appoints a man whose duty it is to see that his town is brought into public notice on every possible occasion. The business men of the town adopt a slogan which is printed on the official notepaper and used as the basis of a pamphlet issued by the city fathers. The small, but hustling, town of Red Deer, for instance, has the somewhat enigmatic slogan, " You'll hear from Red Deer." Calgary has adopted the motto " Calgary the Phenomenal."

Calgary has, as its present aim, a population of 200,000. When Calgary has a population of 150,000 it will put up its standard of future population to 300,000, for that is the spirit which has made the city the most progressive and up-to-date of the Western Canadian plains.

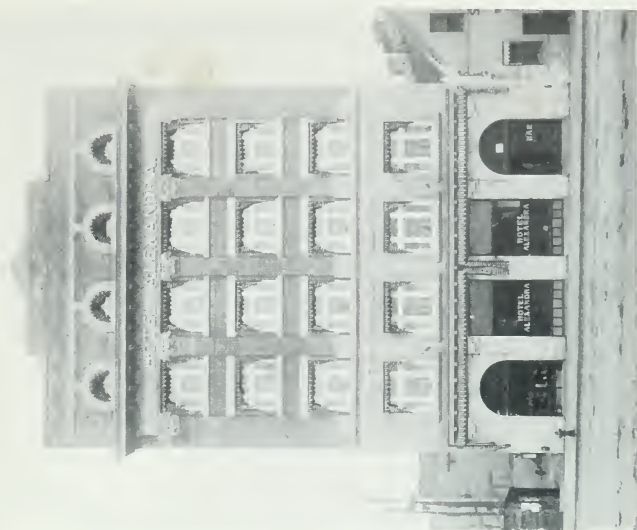
When you alight at the railway station, you are immediately struck by the atmosphere of bustle and haste on the busy platform. People, people everywhere, and such cosmopolitan people. Here an Englishman with his tweed cap, tweed knickerbockers and leather leggings, by which he is known all over Western Canada; there, a shrewd down-east Yankee, who has come West to buy more and cheaper land; walking past, with apparently unseeing eyes that yet miss no light or shade of movement, is a tall, stately Hindu, his turban showing picturesquely above his swarthy face; sitting on the floor against the wall is an

Indian squaw, her papoose bound to her back, and her brilliant blanket wrapped about her shapeless form, while her "big chief," his lank dark hair in a pigtail, tied with a bright ribbon, walks up and down noiselessly on his small, mocassined feet; a group of laughing school-girls and clear-eyed boys; a Chinese laundryman, a Japanese farmer—all nations, all classes, and all ages are represented in Western Canada, this last great melting-pot of the world, and in Calgary, which at present is the very centre of the Albertan bowl. Alberta is the *débutante* of the Dominion, Calgary is her bouquet.

Passing through this well-ordered hive of industry, patrolled by station constables, with small, red-capped boys to carry your hand baggage, you emerge on Ninth Avenue, the street of hotels. Here the new million dollar hotel, which evidences the faith of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the future of Calgary, is in process of construction. Its beginning has caused a boom in Ninth Avenue values, and has made the street, once called "Whiskey Row," assume an air of importance. Two other new hotels, the "Alexandra" and the "Royal George" (note the Canadian loyalty even in its names), have opened their doors during the last year, and both are hostelryes well worthy an older and larger community. Passing further down Ninth Avenue, you come to the 100,000 dollar Young Men's Christian Association building, one of the most complete and well-equipped in America. Here is a man's club, with libraries, billiard-rooms, gymnasium, swimming bath, bedrooms and dining-rooms, and a large and influential membership. Across the road from the Y.M.C.A. is the new building of the Canadian Pacific Natural Resources Department, the name which the C.P.R. gives to its administrative offices located in Calgary. From this headquarters, under the direction of Mr. J. S. Dennis, who is one of the foremost authorities on Western Canada, all the vast land holdings of the company in different parts of the Dominion, numerous mines, immense areas of timber country, and hundreds of new town sites will be dealt with. Branch offices at Winnipeg, Vancouver, and



KING GEORGE HOTEL, CALGARY.



HOTEL ALEXANDRA, CALGARY.



other cities receive instructions from and report to Calgary, where an office staff of 300 is required to handle the business. With the exception of railways, steamship lines, and hotels, practically all of the C.P.R. interests on this continent are now controlled from Calgary.

If you continued east on Ninth Avenue, you would eventually reach the great stock yards of P. Burns and Co. Mr. Burns, who is called familiarly "Pat Burns, the Cattle King," is one of the "Old Timers" in the Canadian West, and perhaps the largest exporter of beef in Canada. His beautiful grey stone house in Thirteenth Avenue West has just been sold to the Roman Catholic Church for 150,000 dollars, and rumour is busy, as to the whereabouts of the new house Mr. Burns has in contemplation.

Turning west again on Ninth Avenue, you go back past the big new buildings, past the rows of hotels, over First Street West, to two or three dozen wholesale houses. There, every sort of business is represented, and to the immediate west of First Street, in Ninth, Eighth, and Seventh Avenues, lies the biggest wholesale quarter any city of its size can boast. Here one might pause to explain that Calgary is planned in such a fashion that all streets run north and south, and all avenues east and west, therefore it is a particularly easy city in which to find one's way about.

The corner of Ninth Avenue and First Street West is the hub of the city, and so cosmopolitan is Calgary's population that they rejoice in paraphrasing an old saying by boasting that you might stand on that corner, if you had patience, long enough to see everyone you had ever known in the world pass by. Eighth Avenue is the principal shopping street. Here and in First Street are all the big stores, and innumerable smaller ones; here, many office buildings, a dozen restaurants, and an ever-floating, ever-changing kaleidoscopic throng of human beings from all over the world. Eighth Avenue, on a Saturday night, is as congested as Piccadilly Circus. Automobiles and taxis whizz gaily



by, electric signs make the streets bright as day, and the whole bustling, energetic atmosphere is that of the big city, with this difference, that here are none of the hopeless faces so characteristic of the large European or American town. In Calgary, radiant hope sits on every countenance. It is the city of buoyant youth and optimism. Everyone has come West to make his fortune, and everyone is convinced he is going to make it soon.

When you see the wonderful success achieved by the men who have begun with the proverbial "shoe-string," you realise that it is not a misplaced confidence. And the men who have "made good" have not gone elsewhere to spend the money they have earned in Calgary; this is evidenced by the character of the public buildings and private residences throughout the city. Just off Eighth Avenue on First Street East is the City Hall, where all the municipal offices are concentrated. It is a fine building, quite worthy of the city. The Government thinks of building a new post-office and Customs House, and the Dominion Land Titles office, in Seventh Avenue West, is quite one of the finest buildings in the city. The school buildings are a perpetual source of wonderment to visiting Britishers, and the Normal School, a particularly handsome grey stone building, is universally admired.

To the north of the city, in Sixth, Fifth, Fourth and Third Avenues, are the homes of the "Old Timers." Here you may see rambling, old-fashioned houses, to which additions have been added until they are as comfortable and "solid" as their owners. To the south is the newest fashionable district; from Thirteenth Avenue West to Twenty-fourth Avenue, on the "hill," you may see a constantly changing scene of charming houses in the newest and most modern style of architecture. In Thirteenth Avenue West is the residence of Mr. Burns, to which a previous allusion has been made, and also the really magnificent grey stone house of Senator Lougheed, with its sunken garden, always gay with flowers, and its parterres of velvet lawn. Some idea of the values of property in this district may be



HOMES OF PROMINENT CALGARIANS : MR. W. R. HULL'S.



HOMES OF PROMINENT CALGARIANS : MR. P. BURNS'.





gathered from the fact that a small two-storey "bungalow" frame, on a corner lot, sold last summer for 20,000 dols.

Further south is what is called "American Hill," because so many Americans who have been successful in Calgary have built beautiful homes in this quarter. The latest mansion of a new millionaire, in process of construction, is to cost quite 75,000 dols. A rather high standard for the prairie city, you say? Yes, but a pretty good evidence of the faith the Calgarians have in their destiny, isn't it?

The natural question the British reader asks is, "This is all very well, but perhaps Calgary is in the throes of a 'boom.' What is going to sustain these values, which sound absurdly inflated to our ears? What are Calgary's reserve forces?"

First and foremost in Calgary's development has been the interest the Canadian Pacific Railway has taken in the city. The centre of one of the finest ranching countries in the world, the Railway determined it should also be the centre of one of the finest farming countries in the world. Sixteen million dollars have been expended by the company on an irrigation system, which is one of the engineering feats of the American continent, and which has opened up three million acres of farming land to the agricultural emigrant from Great Britain and other countries. The irrigation headgates are at Calgary, and the head offices for the prairie country, for British Columbia and for the irrigation works, are at Calgary. Here, too, the company is building the million-dollar hotel, before referred to, and here it will establish its western car-shops, an industry which will bring to the city four or five thousand workers, with their families. A corporation like the C.P.R., which has so many interests in the prairie city, will not let that city flag in its progress.

Let us take a look, too, at Calgary's evidences of movement. A "cow-town" in 1881, with two or three hundred people, and prairie trails for streets, it is to-day a city of 60,000 people, with splendid public buildings, a Carnegie library, well-paved, broad, and spacious streets; an electric lighting plant; natural gas;

three daily post deliveries; magnificent private residences; at least a dozen millionaires, and any number of potential millionaires; a municipally-owned street railway, which is helping to reduce taxes; a Government-owned telephone system, which provides telephones at 30 dols. a year, with unlimited calls on an excellent automatic system; several flourishing clubs; more automobiles in proportion to its population than any other city on the continent; and a class of people who are all devoted to Calgary.

In the last twelve years, Calgary's factory products have gained by about 1,000 per cent.; in the last four years its building gains each year have been about 100 per cent. For 1908, the officially estimated cost was 1,004,520 dols.; for 1909, 2,420,450 dols.; for 1910, 5,589,594 dols.; for 1911, 12,907,638 dols. All indications now point to an expenditure of about 20,000,000 dols. for 1912, though this last figure is not yet officially confirmed.

Calgary's bank clearings for 1910 were 150,677,031 dols. For 1911 218,681,921 dols. The municipally-owned street railway returned a net profit of 125,000 dols. for the year 1911. In short, no city on the American continent can show such a great percentage of increase in all lines as can this industrial and economic centre of Alberta.

One might continue to enumerate Calgary's advantages—the bright, clear atmosphere; the bracing air of a high altitude; the brilliant Alberta sunshine; the charm of the situation nestling between the two rivers, the Bow and the Elbow; the view of the mountains so plainly to be seen, and reached in three hours by train—but why continue? Calgary's charm must be felt to be appreciated, and once felt you become a Calgary enthusiast like those who live there.

### CHAPTER III.

#### THE ROMANCE OF A CITY'S GROWTH.

In 1881 the first beginnings were made with the Canadian Pacific Railway, and five years later the first train crossed the continent. It found Calgary no more than a primitive distributing centre for the wild country around—a little settlement amid the millions of acres that were regarded merely as ranching country, with few possibilities. A few stores and houses, with hitching posts to hold the ranchers' horses while they traded or refreshed themselves, a leisured business largely dependent upon wagons, enterprise and civilisation just beginning to peep out over the rim of the new horizon—this was the Calgary of the last decades of the old century.

Men spoke of it on account of its situation, the stimulating air and proximity to the mountains, with their warm Pacific winds; but to the world without Canada was known chiefly by its eastern cities; the west boasted no commercial existence. Then came the life-giving railway, and in its wake the cities. The Canadian Government had granted to the C.P.R., in the extreme west of the prairie belt, three million acres of prairie, and the grant was not at first held to be of much worth for the service rendered in opening up the country, more particularly as this western grant was known only as ranching country.

Although its rainfall averaged but twenty inches, it was not then realised that herein lay the secret of the wonderful productivity which has since been so amazingly developed. Later on the C.P.R. arranged with the Dominion Government for a block

of land stretching one hundred and fifty miles east of Calgary, understanding that by the introduction of irrigation, they could encourage intensive cultivation that would put a far larger number of settlers on a given area than the ordinary agricultural land, under existing methods, could support.

It is not our purpose to set out in detail here how the Canadian Government came to the assistance of the project by devising irrigation laws simple in design, comprehensive in scope, and effective in working. The Government had the will to do its best, it had the means, and was in a position to study the legislation of other countries that had experimented in irrigation, and to profit by the mistakes that had been made. The special interest to Calgary lay in the irrigation of the western section of the C.P.R. block, a matter of three hundred and fifty thousand acres. From the Bow River at Calgary the water is diverted by way of a canal seventeen miles long and a hundred and twenty feet wide at the water line. This vast undertaking, with its hundred and fifty miles of secondary canals and eight hundred miles of irrigating ditches, was only started eight years ago, when the population of Calgary did not run into five figures. To-day that population is upwards of sixty thousand, and the rate of increase rises month by month.

The rancher who wanted so little has given way to close-set agriculturists who want very much, and turn to Calgary for it. Unlike his predecessor, the pastoralist, your farmer in the west demands modern implements of all kinds. He has no use for the machinery and fixtures of the year before last, but is prepared to pay well for the invention of to-day—if he cannot get that of to-morrow. And Calgary responds; its factories and wholesale depôts seem to spring up like Aladdin's palace under the direction of the magician. The irrigation of the C.P.R. block has done all that was necessary to provide an opportunity for those who were ready and able to take it.



HEADGATES AT CALGARY OF C.P.R. IRRIGATION CANAL.



BASSANO DAM (UNDER CONSTRUCTION).





Mr. Desmond Byrne, one of the United States Reporters on Irrigation, the London correspondent of the "Melbourne Age," and one of Australia's most distinguished journalists, who was in Calgary last year on his journey of inspection for the States River and Water-Supply Commission, has favoured the writer with his views of Calgary, and as they are the verdict of an unbiassed and well-travelled man they may be set down here.

"While my memory is charged with thoughts of many cities, Calgary still looms large in my recollection. In the first place, it was so full that I found some difficulty in getting accommodation. Secondly, everybody seemed to be furiously, yet happily busy. The town was crammed to the brim with new projects and fresh ideas. In the few days of my stay I seemed to see it overstepping the boundaries that served it on my arrival. So busy was it all, that in some parts the offices had spread in advance of the roadmaker. But nobody cared: they guessed the roadmaker would catch them up if he hustled; in no case could they wait for him. The town was humming like a hive, a huge, prosperous, and contented hive; everybody seemed to have a chance and to be conscious of it. And the land beyond the city, that rich, deep, black loam that generations of close cropping cannot exhaust—happy is the agriculturist who can establish himself there. I could not help thinking that, if Englishmen were a little sharper, there would have been less left for the American farmers who were coming over in battalions from the south. I think it is partly the wonderful life-giving air that makes those people so energetic, so industrious, so full of vital force and the optimism that flows from it. They seemed to be strangers alike to ill-health and uncertainty.

"Calgary is a big city to-day; if it continues to grow at its present pace, even Winnipeg must look to her laurels. I hear that the C.P.R. have opened great workshops in Calgary, and this means yet another source of profitable industry to the city. It



is as striking a place as I have visited in my travels from one end of the earth to the other. When I think of the slums of great cities, of London itself, and of the splendid material that hourly runs to waste there for lack of the shadow of adequate opportunities, I feel I should like to take ten thousand able-bodied men and women, who are now merely making the pressure of existence more intense, and set them down in those fertile uplands to wrestle with that productive soil, and gather such a harvest as their stunted lives have never known, in an atmosphere that would make them feel that life is truly worth the living. Calgary wants them, and they want Calgary. Doubtless there are other centres of the marvellous western prairie to which the same truth applies, *mutatis mutandis*, but I never felt more conscious of the truth than I did in Calgary.

“Another thing that struck me there was the unfailing respect for law and order. One would hardly have been surprised if a certain element of lawlessness had crept in, if the mighty mixed multitude that had come to the building of a great city had been inclined to play tricks with authority. The reverse is the case. There is as much security in Calgary as London itself can afford; by the side of Calgary, Paris is a lawless place. The British sense of law and order, insisted on by the oldest citizens, is respected by the youngest; there is not an outsider's chance for the lawbreaker. I don't refer to the man who should elect flagrantly to defy the accepted code; his fate is of course sealed as soon as he leaves the beaten track. I refer to the petty tradesman who, in great civilised communities, tries so often to swindle his clients, giving them adulterated food, short weight, goods that do not respond to the description, and so on. If he should emigrate to Canada let him avoid Calgary in any event, for it won't hold him. A man must run straight or quit; and, because the whole element of commercial enterprise there is sound, there seems very little temptation to go wrong. I found time to examine some of the city's byelaws, and they



CALGARY'S POST OFFICE.



THE LAND TITLES OFFICE.



seemed to be a wonderful compilation, well calculated to keep up a high standard of trading morality. I could not help noticing these things, though my business was primarily with the wonderful irrigation scheme by means of which the C.P.R. has added some millions of acres to the world's treasury of arable land. But it is the privilege of travel to reveal some of the sides of life that we have not seen before and did not expect to see, and in these days when one hears so much of the resistless energy and expansion of some United States cities, it is pleasant to me, as a son of the Australian Commonwealth, to see British blood and brains giving such a splendid account of themselves. And I am bound to add that for all Calgary's rapid progress there is solid support for it. I can see nothing to suggest that it is forging ahead too fast."

. . . . .

The average stay-at-home Briton's idea of a young city in the Dominions Oversea is a very erroneous one. He imagines something with the dulness of a second-rate English provincial town, a place with a long, dull main street, and one or two others crossing it, with oil lamps for illumination, and a town hall for a landmark, with a lending library, whose stock would have been deemed obsolete twenty years ago, and no forms of amusement save when, at long intervals, some travelling theatrical company ventures to take the town hall for a night or more. A horse 'bus or two and some four-wheeled cabs left over from the Georgian era would be expected to serve for transit under normal circumstances, and the hotels would be ill-built, ill-served, and abominably dear. One might name many an English provincial city to which these remarks would apply, in which dulness and decorum march hand-in-hand and are mistaken for respectability.

A visit to Calgary serves to scatter these illusions as a high wind dispels a fog. Young it may be, but it has the vigour of youth. In the matter of public buildings and fine warehouses

it is twentieth century at its best; day and night taxi-cabs ply for hire along finely paved, electrically-lighted streets. Natural gas and electricity are used for illumination and power, and annual expenditure upon civic work runs into many hundreds of thousands of dollars. Electric cars run from one corner of the city to the other. There are live, bright, daily and weekly newspapers, and libraries that, while they may have books standardised by time, are no less well equipped with the works of yesterday and to-day. The city not only knows what it is doing, it is equally well informed about the doings of its neighbours and of the events in the world that lies beyond the Dominion.

There is in Calgary a wide Imperial patriotism that follows closely the progress of the British Empire, there is a national patriotism which misses nothing Canadian, and there is a local patriotism that takes note of Alberta, and does not propose to allow Saskatchewan or Manitoba to catch it napping. It is not only not going to be left behind, but it is going to see to it that even those who desire to keep pace with it put a good foot forward and turn every working hour to account. There is not a city on the plains that has not the ambition to become, if not the very biggest, at least one of the very biggest in Canada, and there is not a village on the plains that lacks either the will or the positive determination to become a city, to boast its own grain elevators and town hall and electric trams and commodious hotels. Withal, this intense local patriotism is conditioned by a very keen business sense. Nobody tries to run before he can walk, even in matters of municipal progress; but in order that the capacity to run may soon be acquired, all manner of business propositions of a tempting kind are put before outside capitalists, and the whole world is invited to come in and take a hand in a good thing.

Calgary, for example, knows that it would lose by any short-sighted attempt to keep for itself more than a certain proportion





SCHOOL CHILDREN CELEBRATING KING GEORGE'S CORONATION.



LABOUR DAY PARADE.





of its own good things, and chapter and verse could easily be cited to show that in the last ten years it has literally distributed fortunes all round. Not only have great business houses sprung up, but there has been an extraordinary traffic in real estate, and men who brought brains and energy to Calgary as their sole equipment less than ten years ago have long since acquired wealth—not a mere independence, mark you, but wealth. Here is no mushroom prosperity associated with mining and other speculative ventures, but a prosperity and a reward that are the natural outcome of economic forces.

Every year in the past decade, and for every year in the next, Calgary has been growing fast, and will continue to expand. She could not hold back if she would; she would not hold back if she could. The stream of immigrants rolls gaily along not only from April to October, but the year round. Some have capital with which to establish themselves, others have will to labour hard and honestly, which, after all, is the foundation of success and brings capital with it. They will want homes, food, clothing and other necessities of life; the farmers want implements; the shopkeepers want stores; the tireless soil yields readily the wherewithal, and so Calgary can look ahead with complete confidence, and those who acquire interests in and round the city have ample assurance that these interests must appreciate.

Some of the country's achievements have gone far beyond merely local importance; they have become national. It seems only yesterday, for example, that shrewd farmers doubted very much whether hard red wheat could be raised to advantage in southern Alberta. But at the famous Portland Exhibition of grain, to which all the arable districts of the United States sent their best produce, the "Alberta Red" took the coveted gold medal. From another part of Alberta came the spring wheat that took the prize at the Provincial Seed Fair in 1907, and the wheat that took first place at the World's Columbian Exposition came from Alberta, too. The southern farmers look to Calgary

for the disposition of a great part of their produce and go to the city to spend their money.

All this means two things for Calgary—first, that she must receive ever-increasing resources; secondly, that she must develop apace in order to offer good value for money. She is already the biggest distributing centre between Winnipeg and the Pacific coast, and can supply her manufacturers with their choice of steam, natural gas, or electric power at low yet remunerative rates. There are few cities of her size in England that can do half as much. This point is of enormous importance to those Englishmen who propose to go out to the West and are anxious to take advantage of the possession of adequate capital to embark in business. No man will need to waste years or even months before he can get his undertaking, of whatever kind, into working order. He will find a municipality not only ready to welcome him, but equally ready to advertise and to assist and accept him into the fold as a valued addition to the civic roll. He will find the equipment up to date in every respect, and possibilities of expansion along legitimate business lines that are well nigh impossibilities on a like scale at home. Competition has still to become fierce; the demand is too well reinforced by the endless stream of immigrants. If he should bring the right sort of wares there will be an ever-growing demand for them—a demand that will easily enable him to pay the big wages claimed by work-people who share fully in the success of their employers—the success they help to build up.

At this present time of writing the city has need of various industries; the supply is unable to keep pace with the rapid growth of demand; the conditions that obtain in Europe are reversed in all directions. For every grade of society there are improved conditions. Those whose labour is unskilled may look to benefit in their way as much as the manufacturer can on another scale. In the deep content that springs from these conditions, the city moves apace to the fulfilment of a splendid destiny.



MOUNT ROYAL RESIDENCES, 20TH AVENUE.



It is not in the Old World that one must look for romance to-day. We must turn to the New, and here Canada stands in the foreground. As we look closely at Canada, we see that the romance of endeavour and achievement is associated largely with the West to-day, and when we regard the West carefully, Calgary rises to claim pride of place. It is hard to understand how the western world of Europe, faced by the struggle that grows more bitter and more keen, could have overlooked the possibilities of Western Canada until ten or twenty years ago. And the only thing to be said in extenuation of the neglect is that it has made up for it in extraordinary fashion.

## CHAPTER IV.

### CALGARY AND THE RISING GENERATION.

When a man looks abroad for some of the chances that the homeland has denied, and contemplates the prospect of leaving for good and all the country he was born in, there are certain questions he asks, not for himself so much as for others. Will there be educational facilities for his children, and a place of worship in which they may receive the moral guidance that counts for so much in the building of character? There may be good business prospects and openings, but if a man is going to make a new home, and not merely to spend a few years in the pursuit of prosperity, he wants to know that there are facilities of the religious and educational kind. Failing these he may still go out and do his best, but the wife and children will remain at home, or if he be not married he will remain single until he can come back to claim a partner.

Now Calgary welcomes tourists and visitors for a season, and it has very much to offer them. But when all is said, its greatest gifts and attractions are naturally reserved for those new-comers who settle down as real residents, makers of homes, who will concentrate their efforts upon the work of developing the city's pride of place. As illustrating this, we find in the city to-day over forty places of worship supplying the spiritual needs of Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Episcopalians, Roman Catholics, Lutherans, Moravians, Unitarians, Congregationalists, Christian Scientists, Jews, and followers of the Salvation Army. Since 1882, when Calgary, then a mere trading station, claimed a place on the map, only thirty years have passed, and





HAULTAIN SCHOOL.



HIGH SCHOOL.





over forty places of worship have arisen. This is matter for reflection and congratulation, the more so because there is liberty of conscience for one and all. And, be it noted, the rate of increase in the number of places of worship is constant.

Religious animosities are unknown, and nobody asks what a man believes in or fails to believe in, nor even what he has been, or who his father was. If he be a good citizen, the rest does not matter. Doubtless in a perfect social state there would be nothing surprising in this toleration, but we all know how deeply the *odium theologicum* enters into the life of the Old World, how fruitful a source of discord and even of persecution and actual warfare it has proved any time in the past three or four centuries in England alone, so it is well to know that, for all the fruitfulness of its soil, Calgary cannot raise any crop of religious feuds.

Very many thousands of pounds have been spent in Calgary upon places of worship; over 5,000 children attend Sabbath classes, and there is accommodation for more than twice as many. It would be hard for any man, whether he went to Calgary from England or the Continent, to search for any form of religious observance in vain. We should do well to remember in this connection how many people look for a new home in order to avoid the intolerance of some dominant sect, how, from the time of the Pilgrim Fathers, the North American Continent has been a home of religious liberty and equality; how, not only across the Atlantic but in Europe itself, the countries that have welcomed good citizens of whatever faith have lived and thrived, while those that have indulged in violent religious persecutions have failed signally to progress. Here, as in so many other matters, the New World is enabled to profit by the experience of the Old, and to learn its lessons without countless costly experiments. Alike for the farmer hailing from Devon, Glamorgan, Sutherland, Ulster, or Galway, as for the emancipated peasant from Galicia, and the Jew from the Russian Pale of Settlement, there are no religious difficulties in Calgary.

No less comprehensive than its religious establishments are the educational institutions of Calgary. Their modernity is startling to the Englishman. While we have been fighting for years over the great problems of teaching, and are looking vainly for the time when the recognised gaps in our system will be filled up and education become efficient, Calgary has reached the goal at which we are still aiming. Naturally the new Western city had an easier task. There were no vested interests to conserve or consider, no red tape to untie, no mad old system to tolerate because of the antiquity, that is so often regarded as an excuse for worthlessness. Calgary wanted a modern up-to-date education for her children, with the minimum of delay and the maximum of efficiency, and she has secured it. Yet she had special problems of her own to solve, and this will be recognised the more clearly, when we state that in the Calgary public schools the pupils speak fourteen different languages, and represent eighteen nationalities. Think of the skill and the patience required to turn all these varied elements into additions to the civic roll of Greater Britain and then the high claims of the schoolmaster are clearly seen. It is Empire-making of a kind that attracts but little attention, the schoolmaster is seldom in the public eye, and yet his labours have the true enduring quality.

Happily for the generation that is knocking at the door, Calgary spares no pains and no money to perfect its educational system, and it has become a model to many a European State. The outlay upon school buildings is already close upon a million dollars, and the fields in which the children play are valued at fully a quarter of this sum. Calgary's public and high schools are under the superintendence of a gentleman who has taken his degree in Toronto and Göttingen. The high school has nearly three hundred pupils, and the building itself with equipment did not cost much less than one hundred thousand dollars. The Roman Catholic community has two well-equipped schools, with some five hundred pupils and many qualified teachers. The Convent of the Sacred Heart has nearly one hundred girl pupils



CALGARY'S NORMAL SCHOOL.



who are boarders, and St. Hilda's College for girls vies with it in numbers and equipment. The Western Canada College has over one hundred pupils, boarders or day boys, and its twenty acres of playing-ground include two skating rinks for winter use. Boys go there from nine years of age, and are trained for the Universities.

One of the strongest proofs of Calgary's confident hope in the future is to be found in the plan which gives the city for its own a university with degree-conferring powers. What can be said of the public spirit which induced a few of her citizens to contribute of their wealth so that, at the outset, sketch plans for a central building to cost half a million dollars could be advertised for? Mere words are rather inadequate. Thus, from a scholastic standpoint, the city's scheme is complete, and the requirements for higher education will soon be amply provided for. The new university will affiliate with one of the best known halls of learning on the continent—McGill College, Montreal.

Again, the Methodist community has established its college, which is built to provide accommodation for resident and daily pupils, and the Provincial Normal School for the whole Province of Alberta is housed in Calgary, in a building that cost 150,000 dols. Here young men are trained (as they ought to be, and are not, in England) to become teachers in the national schools, and carry out the honourable work upon which all progress is based. It is worth remarking that Mr. Justice Stuart, Chancellor of the University of Alberta, is a Calgarian.

The Business College finds a place in the up-to-date scheme of Calgary's educational development, and Mr. Garbutt's establishment, which has branches at Lethbridge, Saskatoon, and Winnipeg, has more than three hundred Calgarians on its books; while, in addition to this, there is a School of Shorthand and Type-writing which receives pupils by day and after business hours.



This outline survey is, of course, neither comprehensive nor final. It tells of a few of the city's educational achievements, but it cannot hope to capture and to express the spirit in which these splendid undertakings are carried out. In the case of a city that is growing week by week, the rate of educational progress is always being speeded up. As soon as a school is built the time is deemed to be ripe for improvements and additions, the latest modern idea must find a place in Calgary, nothing in method or equipment must stay behind the times. Education is recognised as the great motive power of progress, and every citizen of Calgary wants his children to get the best chance, and to get it on the spot. He does not wish to send his boys and girls away from the city to be taught; to do this would be to cast a reflection upon Calgary. Why should his city fail to yield any of the advantages that others can show? He has the brains, the time, and the money to see that the schools are second to none, and he gets the fruits of his efforts. And as money is wanted, it is forthcoming, as more buildings are required they rise, as more facilities are demanded for scientific and technical education, they are found.

Naturally, all this is based upon Calgary's remarkable prosperity, but the matter for congratulation is that the city has elected to make such excellent use of its wealth. It is this spirit of sane progressive administration that gives the assurance of permanence to prosperity, that encourages men from overseas to come and join in the good work, and help the Hundred Thousand Club to change its name and advance its aims in the very near future. The religious and educational developments with which this chapter deals are not important to Calgary alone. In the first place, they are a splendid example to the small western centres that have yet to rise to the rank of cities. Secondly, they are of immense importance to the farmers on the hundred and fifty thousand acres of irrigated land that are, so to speak, based upon Calgary. The farmer and his wife can attend Divine Service in the city, they can send their children

in and out daily if they are near enough to the city, or can send the children as boarders to one of the excellent schools that are waiting to receive them. So it happens that these great problems of life are solved for city and for countryside, and no man who is going to the one or the other need fear that his spiritual needs or the educational requirements of his little ones will suffer in the smallest degree. The far-seeing action of Calgary has cost it many thousands of pounds, and the expenditure is nowhere near its end; but it is one of the secrets of the city's success in the past and present, and justifies amply its hopes of the future. If we could question the fathers and mothers of Calgary's school boys and girls, how many of them would be able to boast that they themselves had even half as happy a time as they have provided for their children?

One is inclined to think that the young cities which make a strong appeal to the Old World and have within their boundaries so much to justify their call, do not say enough about the schools and their equipment. How often one hears an Englishman say: "I'd like to go out to Canada and settle down there, but the best chances are in the West, and I've my children to educate." Very many shrewd observers who quite understand the quality of the business opportunities provided by a young and progressive city have a definite idea that education is a dead letter, or, at best, is very little better. They are fully aware of the shortcomings of their own expensive and unsatisfactory educational system, which is devoted so largely to matters that are neglected or forgotten as soon as schooldays are over, but they believe that the change in a new country will be from bad to worse. It has not been pointed out to them with sufficient emphasis that the education is in no wise inferior to the rest of the exceptional attractions that are offered to them. Calgary should set them right in this matter, for the city has seen that a good education is one of the prizes that wait upon prosperity, and that, if prosperity is to endure, the city must be administered by those who have been trained to the full responsibilities of citizenship and

equipped to hold their own at home and abroad. The reward of its splendid policy is the recognition and appreciation that are so freely offered by the visitor who had no idea that so much could be achieved in so short a period, and who feels that nothing in Calgary's fine record is more to be admired than this.

In brief, it may be said that the new-comer, whether from Great Britain or the Continent, or from Eastern Canada, or from the Republic to the south, may rely upon it with confidence that, so far from making any sacrifice of his children's interests and prospects by settling in the Calgary district, he is, on the contrary, offering his family greater facilities and brighter chances in life.

## CHAPTER V.

### CALGARY AND THE PLEASURE SEEKER.

The visitor's first impression on reaching Calgary, is that the city exists largely for the sake of business, and that its citizens are striving by day and night to keep pace with the developments that are constantly demanding attention. Men labour so cheerfully at their appointed tasks, and the climate is so bracing, that nobody is heard to grumble, and every citizen seems to have sufficient in hand to keep him profitably employed for the term of his natural life. In matters of relaxation one associates Canada chiefly with winter sports, but when you speak to the Calgary folk about ice carnivals and the rest, they hasten to explain that they know nothing about them, not so much because they haven't the time, but because they haven't sufficient snow and ice to make this form of winter sport possible. There are warm winds that come to the town and its environs from the Pacific. They are known as the "Chinook," and they reduce the severity of the ordinary Canadian winter to a very considerable extent. But if the winter is not the great sporting season, there is no lack of amusement; Calgary is so prosperous that it must relax now and again. When we remember that only five years ago the city boasted no more than 15,000 inhabitants, and in 1901 no more than 6,500, it comes with a sense of surprise to learn that in 1912 there is sufficient support for four ordinary theatres and no fewer than eleven of the houses that rely upon the moving-picture shows.

It is typical of the way things are done in Calgary that there should have been just opened to the public by that notable

English actor, Mr. Forbes Robertson, the most modern and complete theatre building in Canada, covering one hundred and thirty by two hundred feet, seven stories in height, and costing, excluding the site, nearly half a million dollars; and this splendid structure has been built, not by a syndicate, but by one of Calgary's prominent residents, who has made every dollar of his wealth in this city.

The stage exceeds in every important dimension that of any other theatre in Canada, although there are some houses with a larger seating capacity. This insures to Calgary the opportunity of seeing the best class of theatrical entertainments, and the other theatres mentioned guarantee that there shall be no lack of variety.

All these enterprises are flourishing, and provide excellent and varied entertainment, so that when a man wishes to forget his business ambitions and anxieties for a while, and take his family out for an evening's amusement, he finds no lack of variety.

For those whose interests are divided between business and sport there is no less choice. Riding and driving are very popular, and are stimulated by the giant strides that the entire Province of Alberta seems to be making in the business of horse-breeding. Large prices have been paid for sires and dams, and the horseflesh that one sees in the streets and in the environs of Calgary would not fail to attract admiration in any part of the world. Riding and driving are part of the city's social life, and an ever-increasing part, too.

The all round rise of the country prosperity has brought the motor-car in its train, and that to an extent hardly equalled anywhere in Europe. Visitors to this city of the western prairie are astonished by the sight of so many smart and luxurious private cars.

On the 1st of January, 1912, one thousand and one motor vehicles were registered with the Provincial Secretary for all Alberta. Of this number more than fully half, six hundred and



fifty-four to be exact, were owned by the citizens of Calgary. It is an interesting test of the prosperity of Calgary residents to note that, allowing four members to every family, every nineteenth family in this city has an automobile of its own. This is a record of which no other city in America can boast.

In addition to the very excellent prairie roads, one of the most beautiful runs possible on the continent is from Calgary to Banff. Forty miles of the trip is over the rolling prairie, with the Rocky Mountain range forming the background of the nature picture. Then as the foot of this stupendous upheaval is approached there is forty miles through the mountains, over roads hewn out of the solid cliffs, and through valleys which rest in the eternal shadows of the peaks.

It is eighty-five miles to Banff, and from there a motor road is being extended leading down in the renowned beautiful Windermere Valley lying between the Selkirk and Rocky Mountain Ranges. By railway it is only about three hours' run into the heart of the Rockies, and this feature gives life in Calgary a charm in the way of recreation that few cities of its size can offer.

Throughout Calgary the speedy motor-cars are no longer regarded as a luxury, but have come under the heading of the necessities in the case of the busy men who have no time to waste, and must travel quickly and often from one end to the other of a city that covers thirty-six square miles, apart from the business claims of the whole wide district. On holidays, too, there is much motoring into the surrounding country, and this recreation is the more popular because if the city of Calgary and its environs did not get bright sunshine on rather more than three hundred days of the year, the citizens would be very astonished, and regard the year as a disappointing one from the weather stand-point.

But the presence of the many keen sportsmen Calgary holds is not to be explained by its wealth of theatres, horses and motor-cars alone. There are many men, young and middle-aged alike,



whose skill with shot-gun, fly-rod, and rifle finds ample scope in the district, and it may be said with safety that the full possibilities of the western prairie from the standpoint of the sportsman have yet to be exploited. The sportsman who handles the shot-gun effectively can tell you of the sport that the prairies provide, the excellent bags of wild geese, wild duck, and prairie chicken taken amid surroundings that make a man glad to be alive. The big game shot will tell you of the holidays he takes in the Rocky Mountains when business will permit. There he finds an abundance of big game, and the man who brings trophies home must be a keen-eyed, strong-nerved athlete, and must work as hard in pursuit of his quarry as he will in his office when the rifle is laid aside for the season. He has opportunities for which the European sportsman must travel many hundreds of miles and pay very heavily.

Perhaps the Calgarian realises to the full how good it is to have big game so close at hand, and does not wish to talk too loudly. Many Londoners, who would be content to forego the big-game shooting, conscious that it is not for men whose eyes and hands are limited by the conditions of life in Western Europe, are forced to break the Tenth Commandment when the fly-fisher begins to tell his story of the trout that rise to the lure in streams that are still well-nigh virgin. For the ardent fisherman, Calgary is as good a headquarters as Izaak Walton himself could have desired. There are plenty of streams in the immediate neighbourhood, and none of them have been over-fished or are in any danger of such a disaster. When we remember what the fly-fisherman must pay for very modest sport on English rivers, and how keen is the competition for sport over a moderate stretch of stream, the attractions of the water round Calgary seem well nigh irresistible. For long years to come there must be sport in the immediate neighbourhood of the city, and even then there will be plenty of stream left in the outlying country. Think of this, you fisherfolk at home who go as far afield as Northern Spain, Norway, and even Iceland, in pursuit of the sport that

gives you the most delightful hours of your life! It is well to remember in this connection that the city has a Fish and Game Protective Association that keeps the mere pot-hunter and trader from spoiling the chances of the genuine sportsman.

Calgary is rightly proud of its athletes, and indulges in many of the sports that have become so popular in the schools and universities of the Old World and the New. The interests of the amateur are looked after by the Calgary Amateur Athletic Association, which controls the interests of more than half a hundred athletic clubs with a membership in the neighbourhood of a couple of thousand. Many championships have fallen to Calgary's clubs, and many decorations and trophies to its members. Perhaps the city's biggest achievement in the domain of sport is the retention over an extended term of years of the Association Football Championship of Canada. This was secured as early as 1907, and was held in the following years.

Gardening is not forgotten in Calgary, and among the various institutions of which the city boasts there is a Horticultural Society. It is needless to say that, in a part of the world where the soil is so rich and the sunshine so plentiful, there is a possibility of raising many fine flowers; and, if no very great attempt has been made to develop fruit culture, the probable reason is that British Columbia is comparatively close at hand, and can raise fruit in such quantities that it costs less to buy from the other side of the Rockies than to raise at home. The cereal wealth of the country surrounding Calgary is so great and the cultivation of grain so profitable that it has seemed best to leave fruit culture to the districts most directly suited to it. But the gardening interest has not suffered and the ardent horticulturist will find a live society waiting to advise, assist, and reward his efforts. Also, the introduction of irrigation on a vast scale in the Calgary district must, of course, bring, and indeed is bringing, intensive culture of all kinds.

Among the best known institutions are the Calgary Industrial and Development Bureau, the Board of Trade, and the

Hundred Thousand Club, members of which are pledged to the co-operative work of developing the city's interest and making them known to the world outside. The latter will retain its title for a little while yet, and then it will change its name to the Two Hundred Thousand Club, and in a short while its members will forget that the first figure was an ideal to work for in population, and merely remember it as an old-time achievement. Nothing is impossible to the type of men who are building up Calgary to-day. They remember that it was only incorporated as a city eighteen years ago, and that the date of its foundation was only 1882. To-day the progress is amazingly rapid; arithmetical progression is not in it, and no small part of this is due to the spread of the social spirit that brings men and women together, widens the area of hospitality, enlarges friendships, and makes Calgary a good and happy place to live in.

Although Calgary does not show any very keen interest in the feminist movement and the stormy fight about the franchise that agitates Great Britain, it does not forget to give the women-kind a good time. The social development of Calgary is no less remarkable than its material and commercial progress. Every phase of social life is studied, and the city is full of societies devoted to amateur theatricals, music, literature, debates, dancing and similar interests. People are not content to work and worry; they are out to enjoy life, and they emphatically succeed in this as in their other endeavours. Calgary is very happily situated for excursions, and throughout the summer there are facilities for week-end trips to the famous Rocky Mountains Park, only distant some three hours by rail, where Calgarians can indulge in bathing in the famous Hot Springs, in boating, and in the finest mountain-climbing in the world.

In connection with the last-named pastime, it may be remarked that Calgary claims among its residents many members of the Alpine Club of Canada. The city is determined to cultivate a sound mind in a healthy body, and not to regard business as the sole excuse for existence, and in this determination, so

admirably carried out, lies one of the great attractions for the women who come with their husbands to try their fortunes in this part of the Far West, and for the children to whom an ideal childhood is guaranteed. It is hardly necessary to say that in Western Canada the men largely outnumber the women of the populace. But it may truthfully be said here that in Calgary the position of a young, active, and healthy woman, endowed with the average share of good nature and good spirits, is one greatly to be envied by her sisters of the Old World. Every such girl in Calgary is a queen in her own right.

These points are well worth all the emphasis that can be given, for in England there still survives in some quarters the idea that the lot of the wives and daughters of the man who "goes West" is a somewhat dreary round of hard work, quite divorced from social pleasure—a crude, primitive, and circumscribed life. How far this is from the truth, more particularly where a city like Calgary is concerned, let this brief chapter declare; though it should stand to reason, without any elaborate explanations, that Calgary would not be looking forward to touching the hundred thousand population mark by the year 1915 if the place offered no attractions, or even few attractions, to the wives and daughters of its citizens. The social system that is only now beginning to enter into some of our home towns, and was unknown even in late Victorian days, has sprung up ready-made in Calgary in response to a genuine demand.

Perhaps the secret is explained when we remember that all are citizens of a new city, keen on making that citizenship a living force in their lives. Every Calgarian is interested first and foremost in Calgary; its every development is a source of keen personal pleasure to him; he wants it to be still larger, still more prosperous, still more inviting to every type of intelligence. The present social development ensures for every man, woman, and child some opportunity of following a hobby, and keeping in touch with the life of art, science, and literature, of sport and pastime, whether it be strenuous or merely pleasurable. And



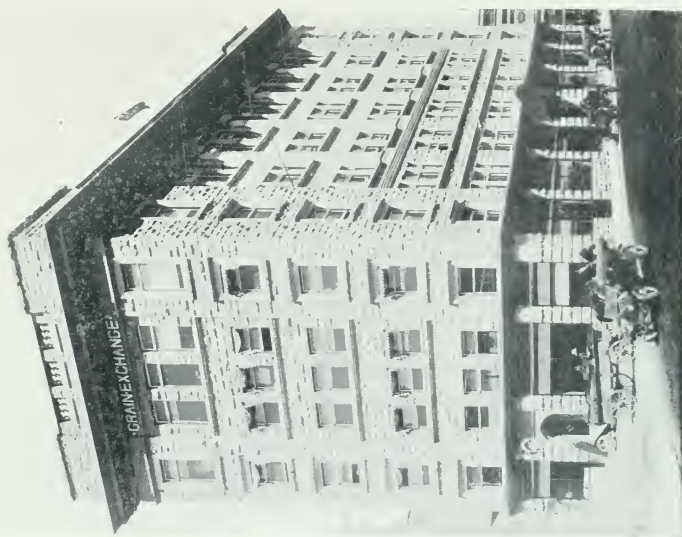
let it be remembered that the climatic conditions of Calgary are calculated to make all social functions particularly pleasant. Indeed, the pleasure cannot be rightly understood until one has lived close to Nature undefiled at an elevation of several thousand feet above sea level, and in company with his own kindred, speaking his tongue, sharing his traditions, and, above all, his highest hopes, ideals, and ambitions. Calgary has no seared and unhappy past to live down, no relics of evil times to overcome; and its destiny lies gleaming bright before the western city, radiant as the morning which each day bathes in splendour the noble vista of its mountain background.\*

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\* The city of Calgary comprises all that area within the boundaries of Township 24, Range 1, west of the 5th Meridian. Thirty-six sections of 640 acres each.



MACLEAN BLOCK.



CALGARY'S GRAIN EXCHANGE.





## CHAPTER VI.

### CALGARY'S CLAIM UPON THE FUTURE.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier, ex-Premier of the Dominion, visited Calgary in 1910, after an absence of six years, he confessed that the stories of the city's growth told to him by friends were not the exaggerations that he expected them to be. He added that he saw in Calgary a city destined to be one of the largest and most beautiful on the Continent. He did not tell the Calgarians anything they did not know, but he gave to the tribute that reaches them on every hand, the sanction of his great authority, wide knowledge, and long experience.

Calgary goes about its business with a supreme confidence born of the consciousness that all the forces of modern life and progress are working for it, its citizens know that theirs is no fleeting prosperity, and that, for all the giant strides they have made in the last decade, they are only at the beginning of an era—that fortune and expansion will grow year by year. Remember, you European agriculturists, who work throughout the year, and must needs be satisfied if at the end of your strenuous season you have earned a living wage, that Calgary stands in the centre of fifty million acres with a rich, deep soil that, for the raising of wheat, has been pronounced by an expert agricultural chemist (Professor Tanner) to be better than the much vaunted black earth of Central Russia. Remember that you have here a country basking in bright sunshine for an average of two hundred and eighty days each year, where horses and cattle run in the open through the winter, where water is pure and the air warm, health-giving and bracing, where fodder is abundant and stock can thrive at small expense.

And these things are the facts of to-day,—the possibilities of to-morrow takes one's breath away; it is well nigh impossible to discuss them in measured terms. There are enormous coal and iron deposits in the district, apart from the vast agricultural potentialities men are talking of the day when Calgary will be the Pittsburg of Canada. There is natural gas under Alberta's soil of proved value and illimitable volume. Coal is at Calgary's door in vast quantities.

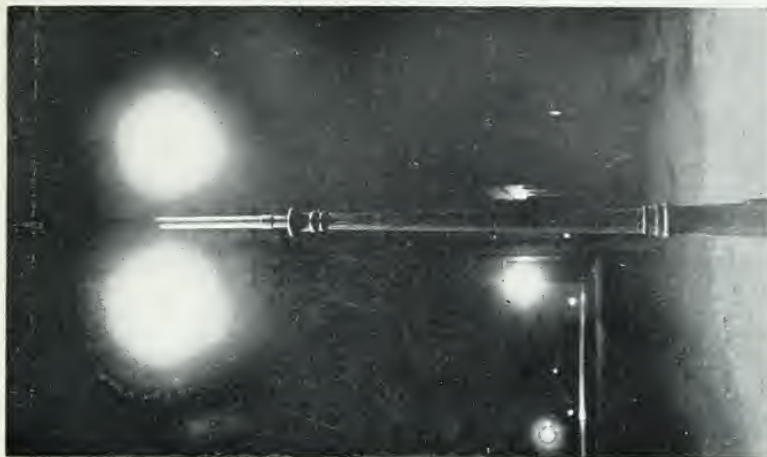
There are endless coal deposits at its very doors; a natural gas well within the city boundaries supplies gas for the street lighting of east Calgary; and in order that there should be an unlimited supply for manufacturing, heating and lighting, pipes are now being laid to connect Calgary with the Bow Island wells, some 170 miles from Calgary.

This means that the dirt, drudgery, and expense connected with the upkeep of a modern furnace will be replaced by the turning of a valve which will be operated by the use of a thermostat, thus insuring an even heat. So low will be the cost that manufacturing enterprises will find it even cheaper than the use of electric power, which, generated at Kananaskis Falls, some fifty miles distant, is brought in at a very low cost.

In the north the general aspect and the geological formation of the land hint broadly at the existence of petroleum. Undoubtedly there will be more than a speculative interest in all this for a time; that is to say, the larger initial fortunes that these discoveries produce will go in the first instance to the fortunate few who have pinned their faith to certain mineral propositions. But all these natural resources are the key-stone of a vast manufacturing centre. The force of mines yet uncontrolled, of mines that have still to find the first shaft sunk into them, will be directed in due time to thriving factories, foundries and workshops, providing opportunities upon a giant scale for all who, despairing of an older world, come to the great prairie city to offer honest labour in return for a fair share of the good things of life. For every dollar's worth of created wealth in



NATURAL GAS WELL WITHIN CITY.



LIGHTING EAST CALGARY BY NATURAL GAS.



healthy, happy Calgary, there are a hundred or a thousand dollars awaiting the new comers who are prepared to work for them. Experts, not Canadians, but dispassionate spectators from other countries, who realise the amazing truth that at this present moment less than 6 per cent. of the great Canadian grain belt has yet been worked, look to the day when the annual wheat crop of Canada will exceed a thousand million bushels per annum, when the population west of the Great Lakes will be equal to that of Great Britain and Ireland, and when the three greatest cities of the Continent will be Winnipeg at the eastern gateway of the wheat domain, Vancouver at its western gateway, and Calgary in the centre! Calgary is the central and dominant city of a vast region whose unexploited wealth will not, cannot be fully developed in the life time of the present generation. Here is no mere optimistic conjecture, it is backed by facts that are indisputable.

All the great transport companies are following, or have followed, in the wake of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Grand Trunk Pacific, the Canadian Northern, and others, have established connection with Calgary, nor can any important company operating in the country of the prairie cities afford to keep away. In the course of months rather than of years the city will be the centre from which nearly twenty lines of railway radiate. This alone serves to show the boundless possibilities that lie before the man who takes some brains and some capital to the middle city of the Great Wheat Belt. There is no part of the industrial east, or the agricultural west, that can go about its business without considering Calgary, for if it does so the volume of that business must needs be reduced. Calgary has profits for all to share, and this truth, known only to a few people when our wonderful century began, are now patent to an ever-widening circle in the Old World and the New.

In the past few years the pace of the city's growth has excelled that of every other city on the continent. Turn for a moment from these estimates of well-informed onlookers to the



hard facts of the city's progress for the year that has just passed. Civic building expenditure was at the rate of over one million dollars per month. On street railways, waterworks, sewers, schools, electric lighting, paving, and public parks alone, the expenditure was three million dollars, and let us remember that this expenditure is the produce of the city's wealth. The Canadian Pacific Railway company alone will spend during 1912 and 1913 seven million dollars, of which one and a half million goes to its great hotel; the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk Pacific will spend a million dollars apiece in Calgary, and the Hudson Bay Company is spending on a new departmental store no less than fifteen hundred thousand dollars. Let us recollect that this is purely industrial investment made by millionaire corporations that have risen to their splendid eminence by sound business enterprise and methods, quite divorced from gambling or speculation of whatever kind. They come to Calgary and lay out millions because they cannot find any safer or more promising investment for their wealth; they are doing their best for their shareholders, and they know full well that Calgary has prospects that are second to none. And this Calgary, be it remembered, had a population of only four thousand in 1900 and a Customs revenue of forty thousand dollars, while ten years later its population was moving fast to the sixty thousand mark and its Customs revenue has turned the million dollars. Let those who think that there is any exaggeration in the estimates of the city's future progress ponder these figures, and to make their reflections still more significant let a few additional ones be added.

In 1906 the Bank clearings had gone up to forty million dollars, and Calgary was already feeling full sized; in 1911 they were mounting to two hundred million dollars, and the city knew better than ever before that its possibilities had not been gauged. Certainly, they will be well over the two hundred million mark in this year of grace. The postal revenue has been trebled in

the past five years, and in that time the city's assessment has risen from eight to over fifty millions in 1911. Calgary has three postal deliveries a day and more than five thousand subscribers to a telephone service that gives unlimited calls to its subscribers at a price with which London, the capital of the British Empire, has not been able to compete! The city has over one hundred and fifty miles of water mains and sewers; it is carrying them to the suburbs that are springing up on all sides. Between 1905 and 1910 the volume of telegraphic business had increased ten-fold, and it is going up day by day. Last year more than two million messages were handled. The municipality is in the hands of keen, far-sighted business men, who would be an invaluable asset to any city in the world; it is their greatest pride to justify their position, and they may claim to have solved the vexed problems of municipal ownership in fashion that would delight the social reform party in the old country. Calgary owns the waterworks, a modern lighting plant that fills the streets with arc lamps, a street railway covering fifty miles of track and costing half a million dollars for its suburban development alone. This street railway returned a profit of one hundred thousand dollars to the city in 1911, and carried 8,838,057 passengers. In the matter of the police service and fire brigade, Calgary has little to learn and nothing to be ashamed of; it is a city free from the taint of those municipal scandals from which so many older communities are not exempt, and is looking forward with sublime confidence to the time—no time is far distant in Calgary—when the revenue from the public services will cover civic expenditure, and the general tax levy will be a thing of the past. For those clear-sighted men to whom the well-being of the city is entrusted realise the truth that low taxation is one of the surest aids to progress; they wish to encourage newcomers, not to hamper them, and they vie with each other in working to this desirable end. The Canadian Pacific Railway inaugurated this policy; Calgary has carried it on.

The city is the seat of more than twenty branches of Canadian chartered banks, and the headquarters of more than two hundred Provincial Joint Stock, and nearly two hundred foreign companies. Important Government offices are to be found here, military headquarters, great warehouses for which the longest working day is all too short, and half a hundred thriving manufacturing industries. For 1910 the civic revenue amounted to over a million dollars; for 1912 it promises to be doubled.

If you wish to see another striking example of Calgary's belief in its own future, turn to its many handsome private residences. You see at once that the city's prominent men have not gone there merely to make money, but to establish homes for themselves and their children. The absentee landlord does not exist, and the man who has a business in Calgary lives in the city or in one of its pleasant suburbs. Here is the difference between the city that makes citizens and the city that attracts for a few years, and then, having yielded a measure of wealth to the seeker, is abandoned. It is the curse of mining cities that such things are possible. The times of boom and the seasons of slump that have made the progress of South Africa so spasmodic are due to the fact that many men went out to make what they could as quickly as they might and then go elsewhere to spend their hastily-gotten gains. This undesirable class of temporary citizen finds no place in Calgary. The man who goes there is proud to be a Calgarian; to establish a business, to found a family, to play his part, be it large or small, in the building up of a city that will take a notable place in the Canadian history of the twentieth century. Money made in Calgary is freely spent in Calgary, and the city offers an ever-growing attraction to people of taste and refinement, to the pleasure seeker, the student, the lover of social intercourse, the man of affairs. And every year there is more to do and more money with which to make local history, so that the streets that were satisfied in the last decade of the nineteenth century with the shanty for which the name "hotel" seemed to be a sort of facetious courtesy title, now boasts hotels that will cost a million

dollars and more apiece in the building, and may even then fail quite to provide all the accommodation required from a city that for the purposes of its wholesale trade alone employs more than one thousand travellers, and is attracting all classes of visitors. Perhaps these mammoth children of the great railway companies will serve to keep up with the demand for a year or two; but at the present rate of progress there will be a need for more before the city is much older.

Calgary is a business centre, an industrial centre, an agricultural centre, a sporting centre, and is becoming rapidly an educational centre; it is welcoming visitors from the Atlantic and visitors from the Pacific; and the stream of immigration, once so slight as to pass unnoticed, has become a mighty river, for in addition to the new-comers who arrive from the East and a few who cross the Rockies from the Pacific, there is the steady influx from the South, the northern trek of thousands of shrewd farmers from the United States, who know that when the question of hard facts calls for consideration the prairie lands of Western Canada are worth much more than anything they can hope to handle at home, and that these virgin grain lands are as cheap as they are good, and are bound to increase in value because the demand for wheat has grown in such extraordinary fashion of late years, and there are whole nations eating bread to-day that ten or twelve years ago had hardly thought of touching it. It is not long ago since the Canadian Pacific Company ran into Calgary a freight train composed entirely of gas tractors, for ploughing and general farm work, a consignment to one of the enterprising companies that helps to meet the demand of the farmers. Such a sight has in all probability never been witnessed before throughout the length and breadth of the American Continent.

Calgary is the farmers' friend, so too is the Canadian Pacific Railway, which nowadays offers settlers ready-made farms on the hire-purchase system. The farmer no longer comes to an unbroken terrain with the knowledge that he must wait until at least



a year has passed before his hardest labour will yield him a dollar. He comes out to a farm on which the land has been broken up by the steam plough, on which fifty acres have been sown with grain, on which a house and some outbuildings are standing ready for his occupation. In less than six months after his arrival he has handled money, started to reduce his debt to the C.P.R., added to the area of plough land, and felt something of the joy of the new life. This is a work of enormous importance; it is the most practical philanthropy under the sun, and the shrewdest common-sense business. It has blotted out the one weak spot in the Western Canadian farming proposition, removed the one hardship that threatened to render nugatory the most strenuous efforts of the settler. And this beneficial, far-reaching scheme which has done more for the farming industry and the world's wheat supply than any other in the modern history of the Old World, or the New, has been of enormous importance to Calgary, because as the live city of the central plain, the farmers must deal with her. If they want stock, some of the finest strains are bred by Calgarians; if they want agricultural implements—and how can they dispense with these?—Calgary has the largest assortment, and is rich enough to sell the best obtainable on easy terms. If they have children to be educated, Calgary has splendidly equipped modern schools, where education, whether classical, commercial or scientific, may be obtained under the most favourable conditions. Do they want banking facilities, Calgary has them to offer; do they wish to have a brief holiday between long spells of hard work, the city is the centre from which all the most delightful excursions radiate. So it happens that every farmer who comes within the great Irrigation Belt of the C.P.R. will pay tribute to Calgary and be delighted to do so.

Here, then, however faultily phrased, however inadequately put together, is Calgary's claim upon the future, and, if it be permissible to forecast the years to come, there seems no possible escape from the conclusion that Calgary is to be one of the greatest cities of Canada in point of size and achievement. It follows,



NOTABLE BUILDINGS : THE McDOUGALL BLOCK.





then, that the invitation so freely extended to the best elements in the world at large is one that can be overlooked only by those who dare tell themselves that their position cannot be bettered. One would be glad to think that such a statement could be made more readily in the Old World, but we know it is not so. Life is a very difficult thing in Europe to-day; unrest and disgust of the prevailing conditions are as rife in industrial and agricultural England to-day as are tranquility and content in Canada. Both in the Mother Country and the great Dominion oversea there is endless striving, but the difference lies in the nature of the struggle. In the former it is to make what is bad into what is tolerable; in the latter it is to turn what is good into something better. The writer of these pages cannot but feel a glow of satisfaction at the thought that he has been allowed to enter the ranks of men who are helping to point out to those who walk in darkness, the path that leads to a great and enduring light.

## CHAPTER VII.

### CALGARY'S SUNSET PLAYGROUNDS—

#### BANFF AND THE NATIONAL PARK.

In an earlier chapter some reference was made to the opportunities that Calgary offers to the pleasure-seeker, and a general description of its attractions in this direction was given. But it was not possible just then to go into detail about the facilities afforded to the devotees of the open-air life, who either seek to return to Nature for a day or two in each week, or, having made sufficient for their material needs, devote a great part of their time to the enjoyment of the historic beauties and the modern opportunities that their delightful city affords. While it is well for the Calgarian that he should work hard at business and in pursuit of sport, it is well for the great British Empire, of which he is a citizen, that he should be alert physically as well as mentally, that he should be vigorous and muscular, keen-eyed and long-winded, a steady climber, an athlete, a good shot. For such men are the richest assets of any empire under the sun, and have made the British Empire what it is to-day. Happily, there is no suggestion that this fine flower of the race is likely to die out. Even if the spirit of the athlete did not strive so valiantly in the old country, Canada would keep it alive, for its climate is sufficiently rigorous to enforce the open-air life; and, though Calgary escapes the full force of the Canadian winter by reason of the warm Pacific winds, its sons, like Nimrod of old, are mighty hunters, and are more prone to seek fatigue than to avoid it. They are fine climbers, too, and the Canadian Pacific Railway, in

pursuance of a broad-minded policy that would have made it remarkable quite apart from its extraordinary commercial achievement, has developed a system by means of which the vigour of the prairie cities may expand in the picturesque country of the Rocky Mountains. Some companies might have hesitated to go so far afield; but the C.P.R. has ever taken the widest possible view of its programme, and just as it has made it easy for all men to reach Calgary, so it enables all Calgarians to get easily and cheaply to the Rockies.

Where you have a mountain range a company of mountaineers is to be looked for, and one may say here a few words in detail about the famous Alpine Club of Canada, whose fame has been won in the Rockies, and whose headquarters are situated in the delightful mountain town of Banff, the Beauty Spot of Alberta, presently to be described. Banff is only three hours distant by train.

It may be claimed for the Alpine Club of Canada that it has created a fine body of trained mountaineers in the absurdly short space of six years. Down to the year 1906, when the club was founded, the most of the men who came to the Rockies were strangers. Mountaineers of European and Asian reputation felt of course that they could not ignore the Rockies, and so they made a special journey in that direction; a few globe-trotters passing from Columbia to the prairies essayed to enjoy views of which the memory endures for a lifetime. Some scientists, hunting for the rare flora of the higher altitudes, followed in their wake; and that was all. Then came the Alpine Club of Canada, first a purely national organisation, but soon forced, for reasons of international courtesy and goodwill to all men, to become international and to embrace Great Britain, the United States, Australasia, South Africa, and several European countries in its comprehensive membership. The formation of local committees has followed in Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, and of course Calgary. There are other committees—one in New York, another in London, of which the President and Vice-President of the

English Alpine Club are members. The C.P.R. has mapped out the part of the Rockies with which it is concerned, and other of the growing railway systems are following suit, thus greatly facilitating the work of the members.

Canada's Alpine Club takes its sport seriously; it does not exist to prowl aimlessly about high hills. Its avowed objects are worth setting out in detail. They are:—

1. The promotion of scientific study and exploration of Canadian alpine and glacial regions.
2. The cultivation of sport in relation to mountain scenery.
3. The education of Canadians to appreciation of their mountain heritage.
4. The encouragement of mountain craft and the opening of new regions as national playgrounds.
5. The preservation of the natural beauties of the mountain places and of the fauna and flora in their habitat.
6. The interchange of literature with other alpine and geographical organisations.

This is a fine programme, and worthy the country of its origin. At the time of writing it has attracted more than six hundred followers. Those Calgarians who can go to the camp held each year in one of the mountain valleys enjoy an experience, at the expense of a day's travel, for which less fortunate mortals must, and gladly do, cross the Atlantic, and travel right across Canada, without deeming that they are giving too much for what they are to get in return. But perhaps one of the greatest attractions of the club is the Club House at Banff, the Queen of the Canadian Highland towns, situated just about ninety miles west-north-west of Calgary, and to be reached easily by train in three hours, and with rather more difficulty, and, of course, at far greater expenditure of precious time, along the old coach road which, though very well laid of old time, has fallen into a state of disrepair that is now receiving the careful attention of the authorities. For all its faults, and they are in process of being remedied, the striking beauty of this old coach road by way of the foothills,





SOURCE OF CALGARY'S POWER SUPPLY AT HORSESHOE FALLS, IN BOW RIVER.





and the river, with its countless rapids, and the National Park, with its wealth of pine and fir, is too great to be overlooked. Those who have travelled by it declare with confidence that it is destined to be one of the great tourist tracks of the future. But whether the journey lie by road or rail, Banff is the objective; Banff, lying below the mountain peaks to which the heather and the mountain flowers lift up their heads; Banff, lying by the side of the great National Park, a reservation of nearly five thousand square miles, embracing river, valleys, and mountain range and lake, and standing between four and five thousand feet above the sea level.

Here is the paradise of the holiday-maker from the town, of the globe-trotter from the four corners of the earth, and in a very special sense, of the health seeker, for not only are there medicinal sulphur springs and hot springs, in which one may bathe in the depth of winter, but the glorious air with the healing that comes from great pine forests has checked many a case of lung disease, and redeemed sufferers from the sentence of death under which they sought the high hills, their last remaining hope, and one that did not fail them in their hour of need. There are sanatoria in Banff, together with hotels and inns suited to purses of all dimensions, and there is an energetic company that looks after the interests of the fisherman and the hunter. For, quite apart from the claims of Banff as a mountaineering centre and a health resort, it may well claim to be the El Dorado of the naturalist, as well as one of the best centres for the devotee of gun and rod. The National Park can only be expected to yield a few glimpses of its treasures to the individual; even its rangers can only hope to know intimately a fraction of such an area. But the reservation holds a herd of buffalo, the real pemmican-yielding beast that the Red Indians of our schoolboy books used to hunt with vigour and kill with the unerring skill that is always possible to the printed page; it holds moose and elk and the Alberta antelope. The avifauna of the reserve are of great importance and beauty, and both bird and beast may be expected to serve

upon occasion to stock the zoological collections not only of Canada, but of the world at large. Needless to say, the park is associated with a Government museum.

Sportsmen are apt to be over-keen, and they do not often pause to think that species whose numbers are on the down grade should be shot sparingly or not at all. Even the close season restrictions that a government inflicts are apt to go disregarded, because in a vast expanse of country it is one matter to create game laws, and quite another to enforce them over a wide and sparsely populated area. Natural reservations, such as Yellowstone Park, in the States, National Park in Alberta, and the great game reserves of British East Africa, afford the only possible means of giving adequate protection to bird and beast. Outside the spacious area of the National Park, the Calgarian sportsman who takes up his headquarters for a while at Banff will find an extraordinary variety of game, or, to write more precisely, a variety that must needs seem extraordinary to the Englishman, whose red deer in the Scottish highlands cost him not less than forty pounds per head, and sometimes more, whose grouse are not held dear at a pound a brace, and whose pheasants, hand-reared on his own estate, cost rather more than less. He will find in Alberta the wild buffalo and moose, elk and caribou, several species of deer and antelope, mountain sheep and goats, bear and wolf, coyote and lynx, otter and badger, marten and fox, beaver and musk rat, together with more than one species of grouse, wild geese and swans, wild duck, plover, landrail and snipe. Of all these only the elk and buffalo are protected.

Banff is a place for winter sports as well as summer recreation. Ice boating, snow-shoeing, and the rest have their ardent devotees, and the district can hardly fail to attract year by year an increasing number of sportsmen, not only from Calgary, but from the British Isles, where sporting prospects will not tend to improve as the spread of close cultivation over what is, after all, a very limited area, curtails the not too abundant opportunities that have existed down to the present. Winter sports draw thousands

of Britishers to Switzerland every year, but if more were known of the Rockies, Switzerland would feel a draught. For ice boating, to give but one example, Switzerland has nothing to compare with Lake Minnewauka (Devil's Lake), where the ice boats can travel over a sheet of smooth ice twenty miles long and five miles wide!

This wonderful land of mountain and river and pine wood can give splendid sport under natural conditions to hundreds for many years to come, though, of course, the day will dawn when Canada's irresistible progress sweeps the flowing human tide right up to the foot hills of the Rockies, and the game that is so plentiful to-day will be limited to the great reserves. But that time is not yet, and even when the game has gone, or is seriously reduced, there will be no lack of open-air attractions. One cannot overlook the modern tendency to observe wild life rather than to destroy it, that has added so enormously to our knowledge in the past few years. There are many who hold that the deadliest work of rifle and shot gun has been done, and even those who do not share this view will hesitate to ignore it.

Calgary has many playgrounds, but the Rockies provide the best of all, and the fairest spot on the Canadian side is undoubtedly Banff, which enshrines the dreams of some of the happiest summers that ever men and women have spent together in the pleasant open converse, and on the pleasant terms of social intercourse that seem to be one of the prizes of the cities of the New World, where men and women meet on even terms without the more absurd restrictions and conventions of an older world.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### MORE ABOUT THE PLAYGROUNDS.

For all its entrancing and bewildering beauty, Banff does not monopolise the attractions of the Rocky Mountain country. To the north and to the west there are more than can be enumerated here. Banff is the most widely patronised, but the gifts for which it is famous are shared by other beauty spots, either on the line of railway, or not far away from it. These have not yet acquired an equal popularity with the outside world, but they are known slightly to travelled men the world over, well known to Canadians, and particularly well known to Calgarians. Their fame has passed across to the States, and it is not long since the "Tribune" of New York regretted the fact that the sightseers and scientific investigators of that city are not more awake to the existence "within four days' journey of the most impressive glacial streams in the world. Nothing is to be found in Switzerland," says the writer, "more beautiful than the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks, and one of the chief attractions of the trip is that the visitor may journey there and back in civilised luxury, and while enjoying the scenery, remain in close touch with the world beyond."

For these facilities the praise is due to the Canadian Pacific Railway, which, with its usual foresight and keen business instinct, has established well-equipped hotels at the chief points of interest, and would seem to have given every place a chance. Private enterprise has followed in the wake of the railway to the most favoured spots, and so we find no less than eight good hotels



in Banff alone, to say nothing of stores that anticipate the wants of every visitor to an enchanted and enchanting land.

Laggan, another of Calgary's playgrounds, and one which, like Banff, has ample accommodation and a warm invitation for the rest of the world, lies little more than thirty miles north-west from Banff. The C.P.R. travelling along the beautiful Bow River, under the shadow of Castle Mountain, passes Eldon and Temple, which is the station for the Valley of the Ten Peaks. From Laggan station one travels along a fine carriage road for little more than two miles to reach Lake Louise, set at an altitude of 5,645 feet, and this lake, a mile and a half long and half a mile wide, is one of the show places of the Rockies, supremely beautiful in a world of natural beauty. Here, as was to be expected, the C.P.R. has established a fine summer hotel in form of a chateau, open during the four summer months, and equipped, among other things, with a staff of Swiss guides, who are at the service of the mountaineers. It has been found necessary to extend the Chateau Lake Louise year by year to meet the ever-growing demand, and the chorus of praise evoked by the natural beauties, of which it commands a view, rises ever more loudly as summer succeeds to summer, and the great army of pleasure-seekers extends its ranks. No less an authority than Mr. Edward Whymper has compared Lake Louise with Lake Oeshinen in Switzerland, to the advantage of the former, which he finds "more picturesque, and with a more magnificent environment."

Near Lake Louise, to the south, rise the forefronts of the great glaciers. The blue-green ice face slopes upward to where it is fed by the unending avalanches that thunder down over a wall half a mile high. Beyond the wall is the untrodden field of everlasting snow, capped by the heights of Mount Victoria, Lefroy, St. Piran, the Castle Crag, and many others. The view from Chateau Lake Louise, through rarified air that seems to bring this world of lofty height and irresistible avalanche within a mile or two, is one of the most stimulating sights upon which



the eye of man may hope to rest throughout the days of his earthly pilgrimage.

But the attractions of Calgary's Sunset Playgrounds have not been exhausted, or even enumerated, in this brief survey. Cloud-land has other waters than Lake Louise. Mirror Lake, whose waters, standing more than a thousand feet above Lake Louise, escape to it by an underground channel; Lake Agnes, sentinelled by Mount Whyte and Mount Niblock—these are spots that Nature might seem to have brought into being for her own delight, and though they stand at altitudes to which the most presumptuous and enterprising flora may not hope to aspire, the sheltered valleys by which the traveller approaches them are full of rare flowers and reminders of the old country. Apart from the Alpine edelweiss and the rare mosses, the summer calls the wood anemone, the bluebell, and the heather to bloom on the road to these "links between heaven and earth."

Only six miles from Laggan, the mountain climber finds the summit of the Rockies and the Great Divide at a point where a stream breaks into two brooks, one destined to travel eastward to find an outlet in Hudson Bay, the other turning westward to the Pacific Ocean. The travellers along the C.P.R. must be full of wonder at the task essayed and accomplished by the engineers who planned the line in the Rocky Mountain country, and brought the wondrous beauties of an unknown land within the sight of thousands, but no more full of wonder and gratitude than when passing by way of Banff and Laggan and Glacier. The railways that enter Italy by way of Mont Cenis, the Simplon, and the rest, excite less surprise, for they are in the heart of Europe.

Extending south from the station at Golden is the famous Columbia River Valley, through which the Canadian Pacific Railway is now constructing a line which will give access to the beautiful Windermere district, which is considered to be the most picturesque in all Canada. Here, by the side of Windermere Lake, the Calgary resident can have his summer home, amidst



THE LAKES IN THE CLOUDS, NEAR LAKE LOUISE CHALET (ROCKY MOUNTAINS).



fruit and flowers, with boating, motoring and sports of all kinds, yet be but half a day distant from his business. A large number of Calgary residents have already purchased property here, and will build summer homes here on the completion of the railway.

Glacier House is one of the C.P.R. hotels, whose accommodation cannot keep pace with the demands, and is still being enlarged. The hotel looks out over the great glacier of the Selkirks, two miles away, but seeming much nearer, and is faced by a rushing mountain torrent. From the annex to the hotel rises a small tower, fitted with a telescope that brings infinite and unexpected beauties within the range of the eye. Glacier House is the starting-point of many a delightful excursion, some for the general public, others willingly left to the sure-footed climbers of Canada's Alpine Club. It is impossible in terms of a written description properly to portray such surroundings, but actions speak more eloquently than words, and it is worth noting that a few miles from Glacier, where the Illecillewaet River races through the Albert Cañon, many of the regular trains stop for a few minutes to allow the traveller to enjoy the view. Think of this: The business man's train, filled with eager, striving men, the most of them with definite missions to accomplish, stops by common consent that all may see, and proceed refreshed by what they have seen. It strikes the imagination to see commerce bow its head to beauty, and recognise there are sights in the world that not even the busiest citizen may overlook.

It is estimated that the Canadian Rockies draw more than a hundred thousand visitors every summer, and that the number is leaping up year by year; for if those who go do not return, it is not through their own fault, but merely because, as Swinburne puts it, "man is one and the Fates are three." Summer is good to the Rockies from June to October, the range of mountains and valleys knows nothing worse than a few passing showers. Fog, mist, and heavy dew are alike conspicuously absent, and the gift of sunny days is granted lavishly, so that at the time when all America lies parched, wine-bright, bracing air, and the peace that



passes understanding, are the unfailing gift of the hills. The part that they play in giving strength to the national character, as well as hardihood to the human frame, is an inviting subject enough, and one that has hardly been traversed; but the limits of space forbid us to enter upon it here. Some day the philosopher and the man of science will join forces and explain to an interested world the significance of these matters.

It is the inexorable space-limit that forbids detailed description of many a charming spot to which the Calgarian and his friends may repair in summertime, to forget for awhile their pleasant toils in the plains beyond. Field, between Mount Burgess and Mount Stephen, a little village that stands at the head of the Yoho Valley well to the west of Laggan, and for all its remoteness boasts a comfortable hotel; Emerald Lake, seven miles further on by way of a good road and a forest of spruce firs; these two beauty spots would make the reputation of any district. A short distance past Emerald Lake one may see the famous Takakkaw Falls, which are eight times as high as Niagara. The Yoho Valley itself, with its glaciers, cascades, and deep woods, its silent lakes, chattering streams, and thunderous waterfalls, has camps set up by the C.P.R. for tourists, who may wander at will through scenes of ever varying beauty. The trails of the Yoho Valley provide some of the finest mountain rides in North America.

Suffice it that no aspect of natural beauty is missing from the Rockies; and let it be remembered that they lie within easy reach of Calgary, and must be regarded as one of the assets of that city, because it is to Calgary that one turns naturally, either to make preparation for the holiday, and on the way back to the centre or east of Canada, or to the Atlantic seaboard of the U.S.A. Calgary is the first, and perhaps the last, great city at which the return journey is broken. Take the city right away from the environs of the Rocky Mountains, and it would still have a prosperous present and a splendid future; placed as it is, Calgary has an added claim, for no city is quite so pleasant to work in as



that which can offer, in return for a few hours' journey, access to one of the finest health resorts known to mankind. It may well be that without the vantage ground of the prairies on one side and the mountains on the other, the pace of life in Calgary would become too fierce, the incitement to unending labour too strong. But relaxation is always at hand for those who require it; and as the years pass many more beauty spots will be discovered in the Rockies and brought into line with those that have been mentioned here.

In the meantime, let the European pleasure-seeker turn his thoughts to Calgary's mountain playgrounds, for they offer him certain rewards that are not within the gift of Europe to-day. Nature displays her charms on a lordlier scale, and with infinite variety; in place of the crowds that throng to Switzerland and the Austrian Tyrol, and forbid even the approach to privacy, there is ample seclusion for those who seek it, though there is close touch, if needed, with the outer world. There is no advantage that Switzerland can offer and the Rockies deny, and there are hundreds and thousands of pleasure-seekers to whom the difference in the cost of travel and living is of no account. And it is a pleasant thought that if money must be spent it should pass into the hands of our fellow-countrymen. At present, the Rockies, as a summer resort, are hardly known to the leisured English sportsman, and it is the earnest wish of the writer that this little book on its journey through the old world, and the new, may do something to direct the steps of those whose cry year by year is: "Where shall we go this summer?"

## CHAPTER IX.

### CALGARY AS A LIVESTOCK CENTRE.

Of the many things about which the people of Calgary are able to speak with certainty, none is more readily accepted than that their city is the centre of the livestock district of Alberta.

Probably, more pure breeds of horses will be seen at a representative Alberta show than at any other show in the Dominion. They will include Clydesdales, Percherons, Belgians, Shires, Suffolk Punch, standardbreds, thoroughbreds, Hackneys, coach horses, mules and Shetland ponies. The demand for horses in Alberta is considerably greater than the supply. Particularly is this true in regard to heavy horses. It is due to the very rapid settlement of the agricultural district, and to the large number of horses required in connection with railway building in the Province. This condition of affairs will undoubtedly exist for a number of years to come, as, down to the present time, only about 5 per cent. of the arable land in Alberta is under cultivation. There is also a ready market for drivers and saddle horses, while a turf club and a hunt club contribute to the interest taken in horses by Calgarians.

In a country where riding and driving are part of the normal exercise of the healthy man and woman, there is no need to fear that the coming of the aeroplane, which is nearly due, or the popularity of the motor-car, already long established, will do aught to reduce a certain demand for good horseflesh for pleasure purposes. There are too many lovers of the horse, who regard the automobile as an accessory to business, and use it only when they are in a hurry. The development of polo, the trotting



CLYDESDALE CHAMPION FOUR-HORSE TEAM—CALGARY INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.



ALBERTA SHORTHORN BULL—CALGARY INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.



THE HURDLE RACES—CALGARY INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.



matches, and the hunts, foster a sustained demand for good animals, while the heavy or draught horse is, and will always be, one of the actual necessities of the farmer, notwithstanding the widening use of agricultural machinery, some of which, like steam and gas tractors, dispense altogether with horse labour.

While engaged on this book, the writer chanced to spend a week-end on a friend's place in Sussex, and, as he was going through the main street of the little country town, he noticed a very fine draught horse in one of the corporation carts. Clearly it was built for strength and endurance, but in addition to this it had more beauty than one associates with the Suffolk Punch, from which it was evidently descended, while the satinlike quality of its skin proclaimed fine condition. The man in charge was shovelling up the débris of the street, and the horse responded equally to his voice and to a wave of his hand.

Naturally, the writer, who is interested in good horseflesh, and is, in a very small way, an owner and breeder, spoke to the man in charge, and congratulated him on the possession of such a handsome and mild-mannered animal of marked intelligence. "Yes, he is indeed a beauty," replied the man, "and, strange to say, he isn't English-bred at all, but has come from the prairie out in Canada!"

Alberta horses are noted for endurance, lung power, and freedom of action. This is chiefly due to the dry atmosphere, short winters, abundance of good pasture and good water. The beautiful weather of the fall months cures the native grasses as they stand, providing a splendid winter fodder, and assisting materially in the economical production of horse-flesh. In the days when the buffalo roamed over the wide expanse of the North American prairie, Alberta was the wintering ground of the herds from what is now the Saskatchewan, the Dakotas, Montana, and adjoining territory. Hither the mild climate and profuse herbage drew the countless American bison.

Many thousands of horses are imported every spring into the West from Ontario. Teams weighing 3,200 pounds up fetch in



the neighbourhood of 500 dols. ; between 2,800 and 3,200 pounds, 400 dols. Lighter horses fetch from 100 dols. to 150 dols. each. In 1911 there were, approximately, 275,000 horses in the Province.

The Annual Provincial Horse Show, held in Calgary by the Alberta Horse Breeders' Association, is now taking a leading place among the horse shows of the Dominion. The entries number from one thousand to twelve hundred each year, and the attendance is so large and enthusiastic that the show is one of the most successful in Canada. A new building has just been erected at a cost of 50,000 dols., adding greatly to the facilities for display. This building has seating capacity for some 2,600, and a promenade provides for as many more. The arena is well lighted, 84 ft. by 220 ft., and the hitching floor, 50 ft. by 100 ft., adjoins it. Twenty-five large stables for livestock surround the new structure.

The Calgary Industrial Exhibition has grown during the past four years from a small country fair to an important function, of which the citizens are very proud. The attendance last year was approximately 100,000, and it is confidently expected that 125,000 will attend the 1912 exhibition, to be held from June the 28th to July the 5th. It may be mentioned, in this connection, that 21,000 dols. will be offered in prizes, 19,500 dols. for races and 13,500 dols. for music and attractions. Mr. E. L. Richardson is the permanent secretary of the Exhibition Association, and also of several of the livestock organisations.

In 1899 and 1900, the livestock breeders of the North-West Territories, realising the adaptability of the territories for the raising of livestock, formed livestock associations to look after their interests and to assist in fostering the development of their favourite breeds. These associations did a great deal of good work in this connection, before provincial autonomy was granted to that part of the Dominion which is now Alberta and Saskatchewan. Four associations were then formed—the Alberta Horse, the Alberta Cattle, the Alberta Sheep, and the Alberta Swine Breeders' Associations.

When we turn from horses to cattle, it is at once apparent that the pace of progress here has been equally rapid. The Provincial Department of Agriculture, under the charge of the Dairy Commissioner, runs Government cheese factories and creameries with a large and ever-increasing annual output, and throughout the Province more than seventy factories and creameries are in active operation. Yet the demand is greater than the supply, and there is a splendid future for the dairy farmer who decides to leave the Old Country.

The large influx of people into the Province, and the almost phenomenal growth of the larger centres of population, have resulted in a corresponding increase in the market which absorbs all the dairy products on offer. It is worthy of note, here, that the dairymen in the district surrounding Calgary have been unable to supply the demand for fresh milk and cream desired for consumption, and dealers have found it necessary to go far afield, even up to one hundred miles or more, to secure and ship by rail sufficient to supply their trade. This shows that we have here magnificent opportunities for dairying by those who will take up the work in a rational and businesslike manner.

Winter dairying is only in its infancy in Alberta.

The Cattle Breeders' Association hold annual sales of sires in connection with the Spring Livestock Association shows at Calgary. From one to two hundred sires are there sold by auction annually, and from fifty to one hundred at a second sale held in Lacombe, to the north of Calgary.

These bring a price averaging 95 dols. each, and are delivered by the Association to any railway point in Alberta for a minimum railway charge of 3 dols. per head.

The breeds of cattle represented chiefly in Alberta are Short-horns, Aberdeen-Angus, Herefords, Galloway, Red Polls, Holsteins, Ayrshires, Jerseys, and Guernseys.

Sheep ranging has been an important industry in the southern and western part of the Province, and is still carried on to a considerable extent. Each year, however, a larger number of

small flocks are being established on the farms throughout the Province, where they are good money-makers, and are of inestimable assistance to the farmers in reducing weeds and in making good use of rough feed which would otherwise be wasted. There are in existence a number of small, pure-bred flocks scattered over the Province which are splendid revenue producers for their owners, one farmer within a few miles of Calgary selling from 1,000 dols. to 1,500 dols. worth of rams each year from a little flock, which he keeps on his farm at a surprisingly small expense.

Among the pure-bred sheep to be found in Alberta in large numbers are Merinos, Shropshires, Oxford Downs, and Suffolks, although there are also some Cotswolds, Lincolns, Southdowns, Hampshires, and others.

Hogs can be raised in Alberta as economically as they can be raised anywhere, and they are a very profitable branch of mixed farming. Although the prices of pork fluctuate considerably, during the past few years there has been a good margin of profit for the producer, and the breeders of pure-bred swine find a fairly ready market for the animals they have for sale. The breeds most in evidence are Berkshires and Yorkshires. During the past year or two there has been considerable increase in the number of Duroc-Jerseys to be found in the Province, and there are also representatives of the Chester White, Poland-China, and Tamworth breeds. With rape and alfalfa for pasture and Alberta barley, the corn-fed hog has a hustling competitor in his Western Canadian brother.

Calgary's meat packing establishments take all pigs offered at remunerative prices.

It is doubtful if any branch of agriculture will yield greater returns for the capital and labour than the raising of poultry in Alberta. Up to the present the farmers have been too busily engaged in raising horses and cattle on a large scale, and in operating bonanza wheat farms, to give much attention to the poultry business, and, as a result, hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of poultry and eggs are shipped into Alberta each year



GRAND STAND, CALGARY EXHIBITION.



INDIAN RACE AT CALGARY FAIR.





to supply the demand. No finer climate for poultry rearing can be found than in the immediate vicinity of Calgary. Owing to the favourable weather, extending over the greater part of the year, it is comparatively easy to keep the flocks healthy, and a larger percentage of eggs is produced in the winter season, when they are high in price, than is usual in other parts of the Dominion, where the winter is more severe and the snowfall greater. A poultry house of cheap construction, with a curtain front, is the modern idea, and is quite serviceable.

On a farm the writer has in mind, near Calgary, the birds are kept in small houses made of single-ply lumber, with a curtained front, and the returns in eggs during the winter are surprising. This idea, known as the colony method, shelters eight to twelve birds in each enclosure, the coop being moved from time to time to fresh ground.

Eggs retail at from twenty-five to fifty cents per dozen, and the fowl are sold at from seventeen to twenty-five cents per pound. Poultry keepers near the city have no difficulty in selling their entire output direct to the consumer, thereby making a very handsome profit.

Of course, it is necessary to have experience in the poultry business, as in any other, in order to get the best returns, and anyone starting for the first time is advised by the leading poultry authorities to begin on a very small scale, and gradually increase the business as experience is gained.

A very successful Poultry Show, under the auspices of the Poultry and Pet Stock Association, is held annually in Calgary. At the last show the entries numbered over one thousand, and the quality of the birds shown was a great surprise to those unfamiliar with the high quality of stock to be found in Alberta.

The British poultry farmer must pay a long price for his land and food, and he must be satisfied to compete with a market that is permanently overstocked. His Calgarian brother or sister can command all the land required, grow food-stuffs at a nominal price on soil of splendid fertility, and find buyers clamouring for every-

thing sent to market. It is not surprising to learn that English men and women have gone to the environs of Calgary within the past year or two, started poultry farming, market gardening, and flower raising (all industries with a great future), and that they are feeling rather sorry for the friends they left at home, engaged in the same pursuit, and working quite as hard for a fraction of reward. The open-air life is greatly to be desired, but it should yield something more than the satisfaction of the legitimate ambition. It is to be feared that the cry of "Back to the land" has become rather an empty one in England, the land is so tired, so overworked, and so highly rented and rated; but in Canada, and particularly in the Golden West of Canada, around Calgary, there is plenty of food for the appetite that the land creates.

It can be seen that Calgary has as much use and scope for the clever horse breeder, stock raiser, dairy or poultry farmer and market gardener, as she has for the manufacturer, member of any one of the learned professions or skilled artisan. In the case of the man with a measure of brains and character, and even a strictly limited capital, there is no doubt about the issue. He must succeed if he goes out to Calgary now, even if the city were suddenly to call a halt in its own expansion; and what shall be said of his chances when we remember the plain and indisputable fact that every day adds to the city's growth, that in the year just at an end the stream of immigration has flowed at a greater pace than has been known before in the country's history, that its trend was mainly Westward, and that the prospects of the coming summer are brilliant? It is as certain that Calgary will go ahead as it is that the magnetic needle will continue to point towards the north, and even to-day the city wants to find on its borders more stock breeders, more farmers, and more gardeners to set to work with a will and turn that vast wheat belt, of which more than 90 per cent. remains untouched, into a paradise of profitable produce. The return for the amalgam of money, brains, and honest endeavour is more than the average British citizen can realise, born and bred, as he all too often is, in an atmosphere of conser-

vative ideas, accepted traditions, and small profit. It is hard for him to understand this marvellous new world, in which the old conditions do not obtain; and one may go out into the fight, do no man wrong, and emerge victorious within a few short years a better man, physically and mentally. In all the departments of industry this is true of Canada, but in the department of stock raising and mixed or intensive farming it is more strikingly demonstrated in the prairie country than in any other. Half the endeavour, the perseverance, the capital outlay, and the business anxiety that go to the making of a bare living on the land at home would yield a competence and a good bank balance in the Western Province, under a sunny sky, in a bracing air, and among a people that has recovered the long-lost double gift of hope and enthusiasm, a people that regards its labours with delight because they are means to a great public and private end.

## CHAPTER X.

### SIDELIGHTS ON THE CITY AND ITS ENVIRONS.

As he travels through the city that was a "cow town" with less than seven thousand inhabitants only eleven years ago, the visitor who has his eyes and his ears wide open gathers many odds and ends of information that throw new light upon the story of progress. Naturally he wants to know something about the civic administration in the first instance, and he is told that Calgary is controlled by two Commissioners and the Mayor, who is chairman and an ex-officio member of the Committee of the Board of Aldermen. Civic salaries are not high; considering the wealth of the place, the 5,000 dols. of the Mayor and the 4,000 dols. of each Commissioner cannot be said to err on the side of extravagance. But the honour of directing the affairs of a community with a place "in the sun," a city which has the eyes of the whole British world upon it, can hardly be measured in terms of cash. The Mayor's special labours are concerned with the conduct of the street railway, fire department, and civic finance; one of the Commissioners devotes the greater part of his time to questions of light, power, water and drainage, while his colleague is chiefly concerned with the making of the streets, a labour that seems to have no end. Every morning at ten o'clock the three officials hold a public session, and are at the service of their fellow-citizens until outstanding questions are settled, when each is at liberty to leave the City Hall and look after the special civic interests he has made his own. Calgary has a distinctly practical business government.

The streets, for the most part, are wide and laid out on the rectangular system that is simplicity itself. The streets run north and south, the avenues east and west; the numbering is done in fashion calculated to help and not to hinder the stranger. To the Calgarian, the arrangements that are made in London, and accepted with such strange complaisance by the Londoner, would seem to partake of the nature of a Chinese puzzle. Individualism is limited in Calgary to the individual; as a community the city is collectivist, almost communistic. Every public service is conducted for the public benefit; the municipality employs some three thousand men, and the profit on its various undertakings goes to lighten the rates and speed the march of progress.

Here is the ideal for which so many Western Europeans have been working for years. And they are quick-witted, too, the City Fathers of Calgary. As soon as they realised that the time was coming when the great railway companies of Canada would be obliged to run their roads into Calgary, they marked out the most likely lines of route and bought up the sites along them. Not for the sake of a civic gamble, not to snatch a hasty profit that would swell the returns for a moment and leave others to run the price up. No; they chose those delectable manufacturing sites for the good of Calgary, and to that end they are offering them to manufacturers at a low rate and a fixed assessment that will not come into force until 1918, by which time the manufacturer will have established himself, and will be happily indifferent to assessments, large or small. The civic authorities have realised how "there is a tide in the affairs of man, that taken at the flood leads on to fortune," and the quality of their discernment is so thoroughly appreciated by the C.P.R. that, having spent five million dollars in irrigating the lands to the east of the city, it is now preparing to spend twelve millions more, and, as has been pointed out already, is making Calgary a headquarters locomotive and repair shop, employing five thousand men, and making this city second only to Montreal on the whole C.P.R. system. Two and one-half million dollars is to be expended on



the shop construction in 1912. The annual pay roll when the plant is in full operation will be 7,500,000 dols.

Although it has been remarked that law and order are well maintained in Calgary, a few details of method will not be out of place. Leading cities of Alberta like Calgary have a small police force of their own, but the task of maintaining throughout Alberta the order that is of such supreme importance to every city and town falls upon the broad shoulders of that magnificent body of men the Royal North-West Mounted Police, a civil force of which the officers are magistrates, while the rank and file have the full authority of constables, together with semi-military standing and training. All are picked men in point of physique, intelligence and record.

This force, whose representatives drew such hearty recognition from the London public last year in the Coronation procession when King George was crowned, has varied considerably in numbers, but never in efficiency or devotion to the service; that has been constant. The force was established forty years ago in the wild old days when the whiskey dealers across the border in the western States of the U.S.A. were supplying the Indians with the "firewater" that incited them to deeds of blood. Three hundred of these Mounted Police set things right, and then proceeded to establish the authority of the law among the railway-makers of the C.P.R. In 1882 their numbers were increased to 500, afterwards to 1,100; to-day the force is about 600, because the greater part of the good work is done. The romance of the "Red-coat Riders of the Plains" has hardly yet been brought home to the world that sees the policeman wandering along his beat day after day with never the remotest semblance of a job. Perhaps the last great task of the force was to preserve law and order in the Yukon country at the time of the late Klondyke gold rush; but, whatever the job may be, one has yet to be found that is too difficult or too dangerous for them to tackle, and there is not in the service of the British Empire a body of men of which every intelligent Briton is more proud.



CALGARY'S CITY HALL.



CALGARY'S PUBLIC LIBRARY.



It is undoubtedly due to the splendid efforts of this force that, even in the youngest days of Alberta, when it was first opening up to commerce and progress, the cattle stealer and the lynching party had no part to play in the prairie lands. Their success does not seem the less remarkable when we consider the varied types that have come under their jurisdiction—not only the British citizen, but the American, Austro-Hungarian, Scandinavian, Russian, German, Jews from middle Europe, and many another, though we may remember that Canada's immigration laws keep a strict eye and a locked door in front of the undesirables of all nations.

Labour is well organised, some 90 per cent. of the workmen of the whole Province of Alberta being members of Trade Unions, that have contrived to secure for the working man a fair share of the profit of his output. All grades are well paid, and though Calgary has known labour troubles, they have never been prolonged, and have been settled, in most cases that have come under the writer's notice, to the advantage of the working man. The prices that obtain for skilled labour to-day are calculated to enable the careful, far-sighted workman and his family to live in comfort, enjoy their holidays, and put money aside. Very many every year take advantage of the opportunity, and join the ranks of employers. In fact, so considerable in extent is this forward march that the demand for labour is almost always in excess of the supply.

Mr. Carnegie's insistent benevolence has reached Calgary, which owes its fine public library to his generosity. It was in 1908 that the great Pittsburg millionaire made a grant of 50,000 dols. towards a library, and a Library Board was constituted in the summer of that year. The building is placed in Central Park, and has recently been opened. It has cost nearly 70,000 dols. to erect, and will add greatly to the attractions of the city. The development of interest in good literature is one of the sure signs of permanent progress.

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Prominent in the neighbourhood of Calgary are the enormous grain elevators standing along the line of the railway, an outward and visible sign of bountiful harvests. It would be flattery to call them beautiful, but of their utility at least there is no doubt; and many a Western town is looking forward with intense eagerness to the day when it will possess its own elevators, and thereby claim the more serious attention of the world at large. In Alberta the crop is harvested and threshed in the harvest field, and the grain then hauled by team or motor to the nearest elevator on the line of railway. The wagon is tilted into the "dump" pit, and the grain then carried by elevators to the cleaner. Freed by ingenious mechanical contrivance from all impurities, it is weighed in a hopper and stored ready to pass into the railway trucks. Alberta's grain dealers and milling companies are bonded and licensed by the Government; between them they have about one hundred and fifty elevators in the Province, or with warehouses over two hundred and fifty.

Winnipeg rules the price of the different grades of grain, fixing the figures at which the elevator company will buy the farmer's offering and send it to other parts of the country, or carry it right across the Atlantic seaboard for shipment to Liverpool, the Old Country being, of course, Alberta's best client.

Calgary companies control practically all the elevators in Alberta. When Calgary's elevators will hold a million bushels the Calgarian, like Oliver Twist, will be asking for more. The elevators have provided the simplest and most effective method of handling grain that the wit of man has yet devised.

While elevators stand for one aspect of the city's wealth, there is a more pleasant one to be contemplated by the visitor who has the spare time and does not wish to devote it entirely to the contemplation of commercial development. He will find in Calgary and its environs no fewer than ten public parks, with an aggregate area of at least five hundred acres—playgrounds of the kind that every city needs and few young cities trouble to acquire.





CALGARY MILLING CO., LTD.



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WESTERN MILLING CO.'S MILLS.



In one of these parks, the Victoria, the Calgary Turf Club has its training ground to which many racehorse owners from the Eastern States send their horses, because the warm Pacific winds bring winter to an early close in Calgary and enable open-air work to be resumed before it is possible to face the elements elsewhere. In addition to the Turf Club Calgary has its Hunt Club, of which the coyote of the prairie is the quarry. The Hunt is in its fifth year, with half a hundred members or more, and the favourite hunting ground is the Sarcee Indian Reserve, which lies seven miles from the city, and has never known wire. Here the coyotes are plentiful, and they are hunted with a hound that is a cross between the Russian wolfhound and the English hare-hunting greyhound, a swift runner and very quick at turning. The only difficulty is that the hounds are not always anxious to kill, and are content with chasing and turning the little grey fox. Blood horses are not used, the highly strung animals being dangerous under these conditions, and the ideal mount for a good run is a sure-footed pony.

It is needless, perhaps, to say that Calgary has its Golf Club. The links were for some time on the hills that form one bank of the Elbow River and are a part of Elbow Park, and there was a pleasant little club house in the valley. At first, on its inception in 1906, the Club depended upon the kindness of the owners of Elbow Park, by whom the ground was lent; but as membership grew and funds increased the Club was enabled to purchase one hundred and ten acres by the river, less than a mile further on, and it claims that the new links are second to none in Canada. The Club is now the Calgary Golf and Country Club, and has enlarged considerably its original sphere of operations.

They tell you in Calgary that there is a rare chance for the English girls who wish to earn their own living in the town, quite apart from gardening and other work outside, particularly if they are equipped with a knowledge of type-writing or shorthand, or have passed through a city office or a general hospital, or have some experience in teaching. At home, in a glutted market, they are

hard put just to make a bare living; in Calgary they can begin to make and save money right away on a scale that will enable them to ensure their late middle age and declining years from all financial anxiety. For example, the lady help can earn from four to six pounds a month with board, lodging and washing thrown in; the expert typists and shorthand writers can double this figure, though, of course, they will have their living expenses to consider. The girl who wishes to be a hospital nurse is advised to study in a Canadian hospital in preference to an English one, in order that she may master Canadian methods. While on probation she will get all her expenses and a nominal pound a month. When she has gone through her course she can command anything from three to five pounds a week.

The school teacher, after a supplementary course in a Canadian normal school, can find a place in a rural or city public school worth from £120 to £140 a year, while a graduate from an English or American university, after a course in the normal school, can find a post worth £200 a year or more. Not unnaturally, many an English girl who desires a freer and fuller life hesitates to go to a country of which she knows nothing; there are obvious difficulties. But she may take courage from the knowledge that the British Women's Emigration Association controls the risky side of the situation with the help of a series of Women's Welcome Hostels, that stretches from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast. The Association sends out a party monthly from March to November. The girls are met at each station by the matron of the hostel, and remain with her till they find situations; some indeed remain longer if accommodation be available. The charge for complete accommodation is one pound per week. Added to this there is the Y.W.C.A., doing for young women what the Y.M.C.A. does for young men. With the co-operation of Church societies, the W.C.T.U., and Y.W.C.A., there is maintained a Travellers' Aid Association, representatives of which, in uniform just sufficiently conspicuous to indicate their vocation, meet every incoming train, and see that the offer of authorised friendly

assistance is made to every woman brought under their notice. Strangers are thus directed to where they may find suitable accommodation.

Needless to add that the growth of Calgary affords countless opportunities to the woman emigrant who can bring to the new country capacity in any direction, and a willingness to use it. Surely there is no question of choice between the new life, with its boundless opportunities, and the old one, wasted in hoping for the opportunities that never come.



## CHAPTER XI.

### A CLOSING SURVEY.

When one starts to write the life story of a young city, when one endeavours to catch some of the romance of the new life, the first thought is that a few words will exhaust it, the last thought is that words are inadequate and the limits of space insufficient to express the boundless human energy that is making history, even while the pen labours patiently but with full consciousness of its limitations to set some part of the story down. So as the chapter heading sounds its warning there comes the consciousness of a task but half fulfilled, and the writer can but plead in extenuation the difficulty that lies in the choice between the actual achievement and what it stands for. One may enumerate streets, buildings and institutions, one may give statistics in support of the story of giant strides, but these things seem in a sense to leave out the vital matter—the hopes, enthusiasm and ideals, the conquered doubts, the sure faith, and the high endeavour that go to make the city in which every man and woman is to have the natural human birthright of a fair chance. Enough has been said to show that the accomplishment of the past few years has been achieved in no mean fashion, and that Calgary has known seasons that may fitly recall Lord Macaulay's famous lines:—

“ Then none was for a party,  
Then all were for the State,  
Then the great man helped the poor man,  
And the poor man loved the great.  
Then lands were fairly portioned,  
Then spoils were fairly sold;  
The Romans were like brothers  
In the brave days of old.”



STOCKYARDS ADJOINING P. BURNS AND CO.'S ABATTOIR.



THE ABATTOIR OF P. BURNS AND CO.



The best friends of the great Western city, that can claim to have become in little more than ten years the fifth commercial centre of Canada, must hope that success will never spoil her, and that she will long enjoy such an administration as she boasts to-day.

Let us now take up the scattered threads, and note a few additional developments that little more than a decade has brought about. It has given Calgary over three hundred miles of streets and upwards of thirty miles of boulevards; it has brought an unrivalled water supply from the crystal springs and rivulets of the Rocky Mountains. It has established an Industrial Exhibition, held annually in July and attracting to Calgary over fifty thousand visitors. It has given the city ample security against fire in a central station, with complete motor-driven and motor-operated engines and equipment, together with six substations, served by a permanent staff of forty capable firemen, who find hydrants in every street. It has developed the gentler tastes that follow in the wake of prosperity—witness the area of the glasshouses, the florists' establishments, the flowers in house and city garden; to say nothing of the delightful gardens on the farms in the city's environs. It has made Calgary a city six miles square, full from one end to another of cheerful, hopeful, hardworking, friendly men and women, who feel the joy of life. It has developed sport on the lines already mentioned, and added in addition to these football (under Association and Rugby rules), baseball, lacrosse, lawn-tennis, hockey, curling, bowling and rifle and shot-gun shooting. It is enlarging the taste for sound literature—witness the schools and the great public library, and the daily and weekly papers, healthy in tone and with a wide and varied appeal. It has encouraged the forces that make for healthy manhood, not only directly, but indirectly, and in this connection the support granted so freely to the Young Men's Christian Association may be recalled.

Calgary is quick to realise the importance of the moral factor in life, and knows what a great part the Y.M.C.A. plays in the critical years of a young man's life. So in a single day the city

subscribed nearly seven thousand pounds for the work of the Association. One remembers how London was appealed to for one hundred thousand pounds for the same purpose as recently as January in the present year, and how the richest city in the world failed to subscribe much more than half this amount in the twelve days allotted to the task. One does not recall this in dispraise of London, but in honour of Calgary. Yet there was no sentiment in Calgary's response; it was founded upon the common-sense view that the clean-living, clean-minded young citizen is a civic asset, and that the other type is nothing of the kind. It was just a good policy of insurance, and Calgary raised the premium in a day! Let us remember that this spirited policy is no monopoly of the Calgarians, nor would they lay any claim to it. Young countries see clearly, their eyes are not obscured by ancient prejudices and prepossessions; they do not hamper their actions by looking for immediate and material profits. They realise that a city's greatest source of wealth is in its citizens.

Calgary smiles when a stray pessimist comes along and declares that the pace of expansion is too great to last. It points to the sandstone, sand, and brick earth that will suffice for a city of a million inhabitants, to the inexhaustible forests that will give the lumber men all the work they can do for generations, to the extraordinary wealth lying underground within a few miles radius of the city, the anthracite, bituminous and lignite coal, the natural gas and the petroleum, to the development of railways, and to towns that have sprung up in all directions around, and are on their way to become cities; so quickly on their way, indeed, that places which five years ago held no more than a handful of hardy settlers on scarcely broken soil, have main streets lighted by electricity to-day, with hotels and stores, waterworks, schools, and the rest of the improvements that attract newcomers. Calgary knows better than any city in Canada the possibilities of small beginnings.

Nothing has been said of hospitals, nor do they loom large on the mental horizon of men who are living a healthy, natural life





GENERAL HOSPITAL, CALGARY.



HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL, CALGARY.



under most favourable climatic conditions; but accidents will happen, and sickness is no respecter of persons, and so Calgary has two well-appointed institutions for those who need them. One is the General Hospital, the other the Hospital of the Holy Cross. Each has a modern equipment and a devoted staff, and looks to the climate to assist in bringing its labours to a successful issue. All sums voted for hospitals, charities, and public health are subject to the Public Health Act and the Hospital Ordinance, but the freedom of the city is not touched, because it runs its hospitals on the most approved lines. The effect of the regulations is that the provincial government makes a grant of about a shilling a day for the treatment of each paying patient, and twice as much for each non-paying patient. The city of Calgary itself pays one shilling a day for each city patient under treatment, and the average cost of nursing amounts to rather more than six shillings a day per patient, including nursing, medicine, and other outlay.

The story of the two hospitals and their evolution from small beginnings may be briefly told; in connection with the first of them there is a little reminiscence that is full of human interest. Calgary General Hospital is older than most institutions in the city; it goes back to the year 1886, when the leading citizens decided that an institution of the kind was indispensable, and with the generous support of the few doctors in the town—Calgary was not a city then—a small frame-house was rented on Seventh Avenue. The hospital grew with the city, and in its latest form is a splendid building, situated on a hill overlooking Calgary and the Bow River. It is not the first outcome of the little house in the town. As far back as 1894 a hospital, built of the city's sandstone, was erected, and this serves to-day as an emergency hospital and a home for neglected children. In case of need it can hold forty patients. The splendid new building only just completed cost over two hundred thousand dollars, and stands on a site of seventeen acres granted by the Dominion

Government. It has a staff of five-and-thirty nurses, and can accommodate nearly two hundred patients.

When Calgary's General Hospital was little more than a private house, a Chinaman resident in Calgary was brought there for treatment. It was in vain that kind and skilled service laboured; his hours were numbered. But it came to him with a sense of grateful surprise that all the resources of the little house were launched upon him, a stranger in a strange land, separated from his nurses by an infinite world of thought and by the terrible colour bar against which the highest ideals of universal brotherhood are shattered. And an idea entered the mind of the dying man to do something for the institution that had done so much for him, so out of the savings for which he had worked so long he took five hundred dollars to start a fund for building a larger house for the sick and helpless. Calgary speaks of the bequest to this day; it has done much to affirm the brotherhood of man, and doubtless many a Calgarian has thought more kindly of the Chinaman, and many a Chinaman has thought more kindly of the Calgarian, because the eyes of one poor fellow creature who was summoned home five-and-twenty years ago were opened before they closed for ever.

Calgary's second hospital, the Holy Cross, is conducted by the Roman Catholic Sisters of Charity, and is an honour to the city and to the Sisterhood. The Sisters, who have all the appliances of the twentieth century in every branch of their work, know nothing of sectarian questions where their hospital is concerned. Their motto would appear to be "The union of those who love in the service of those who suffer," and the city doctors send their patients to the Holy Cross as readily as to the General Hospital, while the provincial government and the city make an equal grant to both.

Each hospital has its training school for nurses, and issues certificates for competency, of which the validity is recognised throughout the Dominion. There is splendid work for the nurses and matrons who pass out of the Calgary hospitals equipped with



PANORAMIC VIEW OF PORTION OF CALGARY'S WHOLESALE WAREHOUSES.





abundant experience, for the townships all over Alberta are associated with a constant and ever-increasing demand for skilled service, and the supply shows no sign of overtaking the demand.

Reference has been made to the extent and variety of Calgary's educational schemes, its five thousand pupils, its one hundred and forty teachers, and a rate of progress that will make these figures inadequate almost before they can be printed; but the reference would be incomplete without mention of the university now in course of erection. Calgarians cheerfully subscribed a quarter of a million dollars to call their university into being—that is to say, that the average subscription per head of the entire population was five dollars—and there is no reason to doubt that when in working order it will be as great a credit to Calgary as the handsome school-houses that arrest the visitors' attention, and may claim to be regarded as one of the most significant developments in a city that seems to provide a pleasant surprise for the stranger at every street corner. "'Tis not in mortals to command success; but we'll do more . . . we'll deserve it.'" Shakespeare's pregnant sentence might well be Calgary's motto, if it had not already selected one.

## CHAPTER XII.

### CALGARY'S INVITATION.

Calgary has a bold message to the world at large; it reverberates through Europe, challenging young and old, rich and poor, strenuous and easy going, claiming universal attention. Yet the challenge is such a one as only the twentieth century has heard, for it is without menace, and is delivered in the form of a friendly invitation. Calgary says to those who walk in darkness, to those who are fighting in the maelstrom of competition, who are expending vast sums of money or splendid forces of energy, pluck and perseverance in an uneven fight, "Come to this city. If you have leisure and means we guarantee you such a medium for the exercise for both as no part of the world can rival. If you have business capacity and capital we can find employment for them on terms for which you would look in vain elsewhere. If you have no more than skilled labour, you shall receive its full value at our hands. We have potential wealth beyond the dreams of avarice. Come, then, earn and take your share; we have more than we require for ourselves. There is nothing that you will miss of the old world except its burdens, its inequalities, its restrictions and conventions. You cannot come to a healthier city, to a more progressive one, or to one more ready to take you by the hand and place your name upon its civic roll. Keep your political, social and religious faith; live your own inner life in a city where men are as free as the air they breathe. We offer you home and broad acres, social life, education for your children, business for your working hours, and sport of whatever kind you may elect to follow for your hours

of leisure, encouragement in the time of your struggle, and honour for your pluck. We have open doors and good fellowship; we are building a city that shall take rank with the proudest in the great Dominion. Come and help us. Have you been looking in vain for the opportunity of self-expression; have you been hampered by the weight of numbers, by the lack of sufficient opportunity in some overcrowded area of fiercest competition? Forget your past troubles. Here is the life that thrills men and women with such a joy, as has been well-nigh lost to the older world for generation. Stand not upon the order of your coming, but come."

This, if the writer catches it truly, is the message of Calgary, far flung to the world at large. It was delivered years ago, and heard faintly, unbelievably, or misunderstood by thousands. But, on the other hand, there were thousands with ears and eyes open; they responded, and the day of their response was the luckiest of their lives. Now they have sent their message to distant lands, and the tide flows fast. Yet, fast as it flows, the city absorbs it; the sixty thousand will become six hundred thousand, and yet there will be a welcome, even though, as is inevitable, those who are the first to respond must be the first to reap the rewards. And what rewards are they? To every man, according to the measure of his ability, there is none so poor but that the skilled work of his hands commands its value, and receives its price; none so rich but that he may lay out his wealth to supreme advantage in commerce, in purchase of real estate, in building for a city that never ceases to expand. Good health, good cheer, the gifts of Nature, spread with a lavish hand. What more than this can anyone desire?

Calgary makes a startling claim, but does it lack substantiation at any point? Let the preceding chapters tell. They present a faithful picture, and if they are incomplete, it is because the spirit of such a vast resolve, travelling fast along the high road from one great achievement to another, cannot be confined within the covers of any book. We, from our island

home, look with infinite longing to the prairie city, and if the ties that bind us to the old land are too strong to be broken now, we know at least that they hold us back from the life we would have chosen had opportunity found us before we had given hostages to fortune. Happily, there are thousands to whom freedom of action has been granted, and to these we point out the road we fain would follow—the road to achievement and content among our brothers of the great Dominion. For we can but regard Calgary as one of the most significant cities of our twentieth century, and its triumphant endeavour as one of the most hopeful signs that the old order changes, giving place to the new. It is with good and sufficient reason that it has chosen for title the proud name of

“CALGARY THE PHENOMENAL.”



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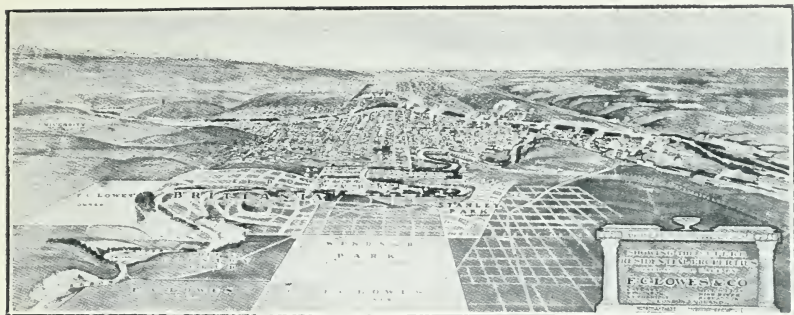
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